

Agawam 65¢

Advertiser News

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"Your Hometown Newspaper"

Volume XXIII Number 48

November 30, 2000

Sarat Ford's Award-Winning Team...



THE GANG AT SARAT FORD IN AGAWAM recently won the "Relay for Life" Most Improved Team Award from the American Cancer Society. The Sarat Ford team donated \$10,230 to the Cancer Society, which was a \$5,000 improvement over last year's donation. Jack Sarat, owner and operator of Sarat Ford, is in the back row - the fellow with the big smile (far right). (See related photo and story in "Spotlight On Business.")

AHS Rallies For American Red Cross



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL recently held a blood drive to assist the holiday blood bank for the American Red Cross. In the photo above, student Ashley Guiel is on the table giving her "gift of life" while classmates Heather Newalu and Stephanie Pettazzoni look on. (See related photo on Page 2.) Photo courtesy of Pulaski Photographic.

Council's Industrial Comm. Discusses Berkshire Power

by Hope E. Murray
Municipal Writer

Mayor Richard A. Cohen said that despite the fact the Berkshire Power Plant is still running tests to perfect problems in the system, plant officials said they are working things out.

"They tell me they're working on it and I have no reason not to believe them. They'd like to be up and running as quickly as possible," Cohen said, adding, "I don't think people have any reason to fear the plant."

Fear may not be on the minds of five residents near the plant (located off Shoemaker Lane) who attended the Town Council's Industrial Relations Committee (IRC) meeting on Monday, November 27th, but concerns about the plant are on their minds.

"They had two major concerns," said Councilor Gina M. Letellier, a member of the IRC. "The first is that they agree a demolition fund must be done and they're glad we're pushing that."

The demolition escrow fund is a condition of Berkshire Power's agreement with the town. The fund will ensure that the land the plant is located on will be returned to its former state when the plant ceases to operate.

The plant has been producing and selling power to the grid for several months without an occupancy permit from the town. A lack of a demolition fund is one reason the permit has not been granted. Other conditions include lighting updates and a successful 30-day operating period.

Another concern of residents involves the fact that the plant has not gone back to the state for an override of special conditions implemented back in 1996. Letellier added that the residents also brought documentation of other potential problems.

Berkshire Power was slotted to open a year ago, but setbacks keep getting in the way. For a few months, the plant has been producing some power and selling it to the grid. The operations are tests, which Ms. Letellier said have not been successful for more than 26 consecutive days and they need to reach 30 days of testing before they can be up and running.

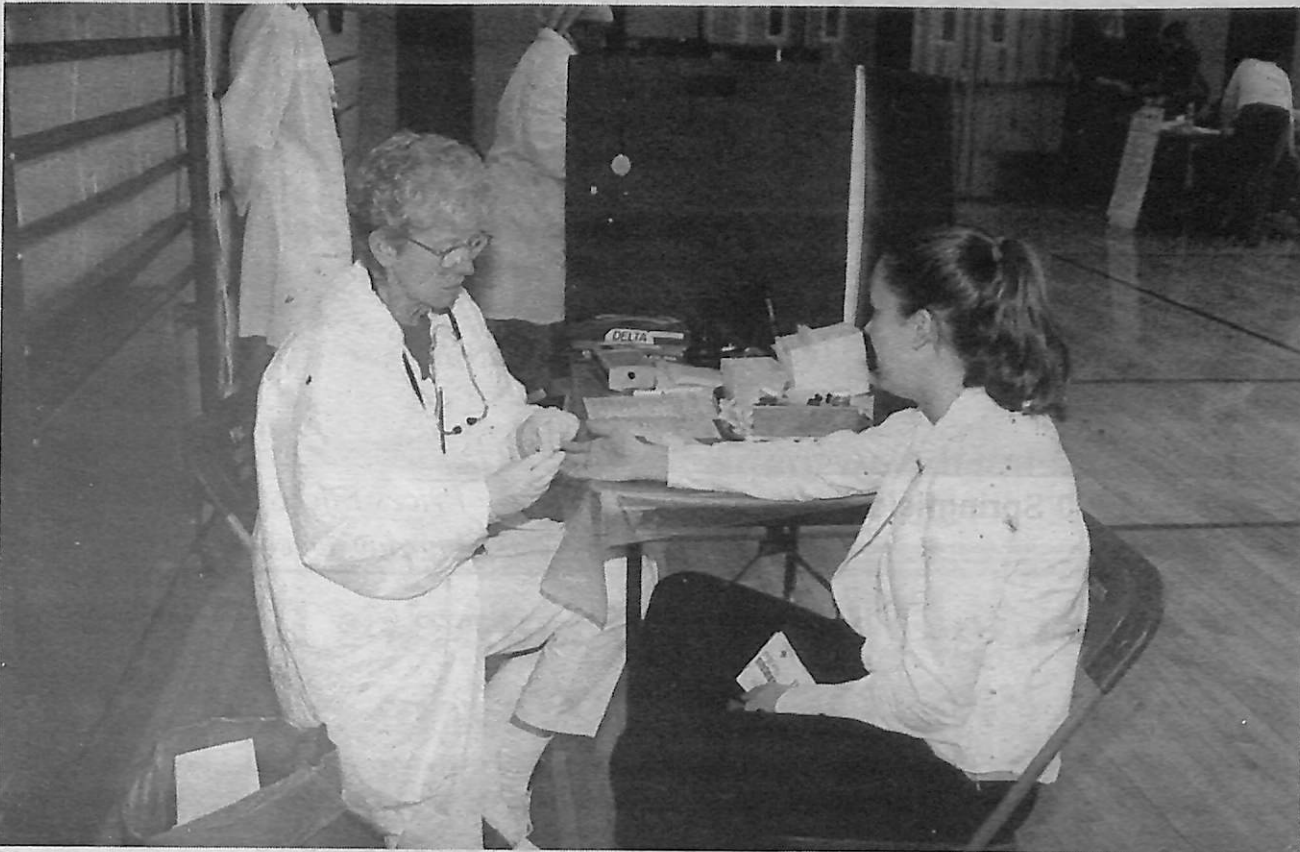
The plant's failure to reach the 30-day mark has some people wondering why. "It raises the question of why they haven't gotten the bugs out by now," she said, adding that skeptics have said they may just test for months.

"Building Inspector Dominic Urbanati said each time they (Berkshire officials) said there was a problem, he went and verified it was a problem." Mr. Letellier said something else that has her worried is the company's insurance policy for the demolition fund, but she had no further information to share on that.

Department of Public Works Superintendent John Stone attended the meeting to answer any questions

SEE BERKSHIRE POWER - Page 2

“Now, This Won’t Hurt A Bit...”



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL senior Courtney Adamczyk has her blood tested at the recent blood drive sponsored by the school to benefit the American Red Cross. Photo courtesy of Pulaski Photographic.

Our classified ads cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills Center (above Remillard Insurance Agency), or mail them (along with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

BERKSHIRE POWER - from Page 1

and to explain why he thought Berkshire Power's back-up plan, another topic of concern, was acceptable.

"Mr. Stone said that there's a difference between water supply problems and water distribution problems," Ms. Letellier said. "He said he does not foresee any water supply problems."

Stone said that in case of a drought, the town can turn off the supply to Berkshire Power, which can then use an alternate supply so the town is not affected.

The IRC consists of Ms. Letellier and fellow Councilors Jill Simpson, Robert Rossi, and Richard Morassi.

Berkshire Power did not have a representative at Monday's meeting.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, letters, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... AAN!!!

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Gallo (1.5 Ltr.) <i>Chardonnay, Merlot, Cabernet, Cafe Zinfandel, Hearty Burgundy</i> \$6.99	Jacob's Creek (750 ml.) <i>Chardonnay</i> \$6.49 <i>Merlot, Cabernet</i> \$6.99	Moet Et Chandon White Star Champagne (750 ml.) \$25.99	Stoek Sweet, Dry Vermouth (1.5 Ltr.) \$6.99	Hogue Johannisburg Riesling (750 ml.) \$6.99	Presidential Porto (750 ml.) <i>Ruby (Non-Vintage), Tawny (Non-Vintage)</i> \$7.99

LIQUOR SPECIALS

Johnny Walker Red Scotch (1.75 Ltr.) \$31.99	Grey Goose (750 ml.) \$22.99	Kahlua (200 ml. - 4 Pk.) \$4.99	Romana Sambuca (750 ml.) \$14.99	Canadian Club (1.75 Ltr.) \$17.99	Seagram's 7 (1.75 Ltr.) \$15.99
Bacardi Rum (1.75 Ltr.) \$16.99	Captain Morgan Spiced Rum (1.75 Ltr.) \$18.99	Dewars (1.75 Ltr.) \$31.99	Absolut Vodka (1.75 Ltr.) \$25.99	Beefeater's Gin (1.75 Ltr.) \$24.99	Bailey's (750 ml.) \$15.99

BEER SPECIALS

Coors & Coors Light (30-Pk. Cans) \$16.99	Killian's Irish Red (12-Pk. Btls.) \$9.99	Moosehead (12-Pk. Btls.) \$8.99	Miller Genuine Draft (Reg. & Light) (Bar Btls.) \$10.99	Rolling Rock (12-Pk. Btls.) \$7.99	LaBatt's (Blue Ice / Light) (12-Pk. Btls.) \$8.99
O'Doul's (Case - Btls. Or Cans) \$12.99	Busch & Busch Light (X Port) (Bar Btls.) \$9.99	Michelob & Michelob Light (12-Pk. Btls.) \$8.99	Harpoon (All Flavors) (12-Pk. Btls.) \$10.99	Red Hook (12-Pk. Btls.) \$9.99	Sam Adams (Loose Case) \$19.99



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Letters To The Editor

Calling On All New England Patriots Fans

To The Editor:

I am asking all New England Patriots fans to call 786-0400 or write to our Mayor about getting Channel 4 WBZ Boston onto our lineup. Sunday was the fourth time that Channel 3 WFSB Hartford, Connecticut did not show the New England Patriots game. I am sure it won't be the last week.

We all know how Hartford, Connecticut feels about the New England Patriots after last year. AT&T Broadband services Channel 4 to Amherst, Bernardston, Buckland, Gill, Greenfield, Hardwick, Monson, Montague, Northfield, Palmer, Pelham, Shelburne, Ware, and Warren in our area. At one time, we used to have another Boston station.

I hope that all New England Patriots fans and anyone else that would like a second CBS station call or write to the Mayor. The Mayor is the only person that can change this for the town. We do have two ABC stations and two NBC stations; why can't we have two CBS stations?

Channel 4 does show many other programs that Channel 3 does not. Also, Channel 3 does not always come in very clear.

Sincerely,
Karl Schmaelzle
Feeding Hills

Tree Lighting Ceremony Scheduled For December 10th

To The Editor:

It is the holiday season again and we are having our second Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony. Everyone is invited on Sunday, December 10th at 6:30 p.m., at the Veterans' Green at Phelps.

This year's tree has been donated by A.P. Boglish & Sons. Once again this year, music is being provided by the Great Pretenders. Refreshments will be provided and we will be getting a visit from Santa.

I hope to see you there!

Karla Mancini Young
Holiday Tree Lighting Comm.

A Resolution To Tuckahoe Issue In Best Interest Of Town

To The Editor:

It was with great interest that I read the article regarding Tuckahoe Turf Farm in the November 16th edition of *The Advertiser News*. I agree with Councilor Bonavita that a resolution to this issue is in the best interest of the Town of Agawam and must be a priority issue for the council.

While the open-ended escalating interest costs are a major concern to residents and councilors alike, we must not lose sight of the fact that failure to resolve this matter will have a severe impact on many of the proposed capital projects the town seeks to undertake. Until we know the true and final cost of settlement and its effect on the tax rate, we cannot seek to

If you visit the Advertiser News' new office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills (above Remillard Insurance), please note that our main entrance is in the back. Please park on the side of the building and use the back entrance. Thank you...

undertake projects such as a new DPW garage, a public safety complex, and the acquisition of land for similar projects.

I urge the council and the Mayor to begin an immediate and earnest effort to settle this issue.

Ronald LaRiviere
Feeding Hills

Pizza Party For Scleroderma Research Was Successful

To The Editor:

The November 15th Pizza & Beer Party for Scleroderma Research held at the Dante Club was a huge success.

The fundraiser put on by "Gubby and Friends" raised nearly \$2,000, which will be sent to the Scleroderma International Foundation headed by Dr. Stanley Jacobs at the University of Oregon.

The committee wishes to thank all the supporters of this event, including those donors of prizes for the raffle.

The cooperation of the Dante Club, *The Agawam Advertiser News*, and *The West Springfield Record* is greatly appreciated.

"Gubby and Friends"

Parish Cupboard Appreciates Support This Thanksgiving

To The Editor:

By the end of the day last Thursday, November 23rd, I was finished standing on street corners, our staff and volunteers were relaxing with the people they love the most, and the families and individuals we serve here at the Parish Cupboard received a Thanksgiving bounty from their neighbors.

We give thanks every day. We have so many partners in this mission of love 365 days of the year. But on this particular day, we were especially thankful for the young people, the individuals, the churches, the businesses, and everyone who brought us food, gift certificates, and money to feed people. We couldn't attempt to do what we do without each and every one of you.

Your families, your successes, your challenges, and your dreams were in our Thanksgiving prayers. May God keep you well.

Sincerely,
Candy A. Boucher
Executive Director

Florida Residents Enjoy 60th Anniversary Article

To The Editor:

A thank-you to the production staff of *The Agawam Advertiser News* for having our picture and article about our 60th anniversary in your paper.

My dad, Norman Fraser, and I also lived in Agawam on Suffield Street.

Thank you again.

Murial Fraser Burr and Kenneth Burr
Florida

Veterans' Corner...

Let's Support Donation Drive For Soldiers' Home

by Edward A. Kellogg, Veterans' Agent
786-0400, Ext. 236/237

We are now in a special season that is a time for giving and sharing. This year, I would like to give and share with the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke.

How many times have you driven by the Soldiers' Home and admired that majestic building on the hill? Those buildings house our unsung heroes; our warriors of this great nation's past conflicts. These men and women met the calling of their country. Today, they reside there in the Soldiers' Home.

It is my opinion that we not forget these people and the sacrifices they made for the freedoms we have. I am asking you to join with this office and the American Legion Post 185 to help in our donation drive.

The following items have been requested by the Soldiers' Home. There are two categories of needs - "personal comfort items" and "fun things."

PERSONAL COMFORT ITEMS: large can spray deodorant-only; denture cleaner; Poligrip; hairbrushes; wheelchair cup holders; cosmetic bags for women veterans (baby lotion, lipstick, hairbrushes, kneesocks); white socks; afghans; wheelchair bags; writing pads/envelopes; toothpaste; and sweatpants.

FUN THINGS: Bird seed; popcorn; popcorn oil; Beano cards; large-print books/magazines; videos; silk plants; used postage stamps; paperback books; playing cards; tee-shirts (colored - X, XL, XXL); baseball caps; and sweatshirts.

In whatever you may do, you are helping the home live up to its motto of "Care with Honor and Dignity."

On behalf of the Veterans' Office, the American Legion, and the Soldiers' Home, we would like to say thanks for all your support and generosity.

Please drop your donations off at the Veterans' Office (inside Agawam Town Hall, Main Street, Agawam). I will bring these items to the Home in mid-December.

Republican Town Committee Slates Mtg.

The Agawam Republican Town Committee will hold a breakfast meeting on Saturday morning, December 9th, at 8:30 a.m. at the Oak Ridge Country Club in Feeding Hills.

The agenda will include the regular monthly business meeting and reports from state committee members Roberta Brundette and Robert Magovern.

Kent Lage, committee vice-chairman, will conduct the meeting and invites anyone interested in becoming an active member of the Republican Town Committee to attend this meeting.

Questions can be addressed to Kent at 786-8905.



The Agawam Advertiser News

786-7747

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786-8137

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THE AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS (U.S.P.S.-001-170) is published weekly for \$24.50 per year by PAG Publications, Inc., 14 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030-0263. Second class postage is paid at F.H., MA 01030 & at associated offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Agawam Advertiser News, P.O. Box 263, F.H., MA 01030-0263.

Breaking Ground On Skateboard Park

After months of planning, construction is underway for the new Skateboard Park located at Shea Field. On Wednesday, November 22nd, the old dilapidated tennis courts were reclaimed and used as the base for the new asphalt pad that will be home to the new park. The new asphalt surface will be laid early in December, depending on the weather. Once the new surface is laid, a new fence will be installed and the ramps, jumps, and elements that will make up the park will be installed next May.

Christopher Sparks, Director of Parks & Recreation, is pleased to see work beginning in 2000. "Right now, we are dependent upon the weather. Hopefully winter will get a late start like it did last year, and we can get as much work done as possible now," Sparks said. A May grand opening is currently scheduled, barring any unforeseen delays.

Currently, the committee to build the Skateboard Park is working hard to raise funds to purchase the ramps, jumps, and elements. A public meeting is set for Thursday, December 7th, for skaters to meet with the park designer, Tom Noble of SPC Skateparks. SPC is located in Maine and recently worked on projects in Great Barrington and New Britain.

Mayor Richard A. Cohen said, "We want this to be the skater's park." He added, "The committee and town engineers are doing a great job, but help from the kids who are going to use the park is needed. We want their input to make this the best park we can build."



MAYOR RICHARD A. COHEN (top left) is pleased as construction gets underway at the old Shea's Field tennis courts for the new Skateboard Park. A public meeting regarding the park will be held on Thursday, December 7th, at 4:00 p.m. in the Peirce Community Room at the Agawam Police Station.

No tax dollars are being used to fund the construction of the new Skateboard Park. Donations and fundraising are needed to build this park.

Anyone interested in assisting the Recreation

Department and the committee is encouraged to attend the public meeting at 4:00 p.m. on December 7th in the Peirce Community Room located at the Agawam Police Station.

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- Agawam Obituaries -

HELEN E. BORGATTI

Helen E. (Johnson) Borgatti, 73, of Franklin Street, Feeding Hills, died recently at a local nursing home.

She worked for Ampad and retired in 1986.

She was born in Middletown, Connecticut, and briefly lived in Springfield before moving to Feeding Hills 54 years ago.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

Her husband, Joseph F. Borgatti, died in 1982.

She leaves five sons, Frank of Wilbraham, Robert and James, both of Feeding Hills, Joseph of Guilford, Vermont, and Larry of Agawam; three brothers, Frank Johnson of Ormand, Florida, Warren Johnson of Meriden, Connecticut, and Clifford Johnson of Middletown; a sister, Irene Augeri of Middletown; 10 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and the church, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery in West Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Western Massachusetts, 1 Armory Square, Springfield, MA 01105.

NICOLINA C. BULDRINI

Nicolina Catherine (Capaccio) Buldrini, 97, of Agawam, died recently at a local nursing home.

She worked at Arted Co. in Springfield, where she helped produce by hand telemetry circuit boards that were used to provide lunar landing directions to the Eagle.

Born in Springfield, she lived there for 38 years before moving to Agawam four years ago.

She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in East Springfield.

Her husband, Frank J. Buldrini, died in 1976.

She leaves a son, John F. of Southwick; a daughter, Catherine M. Strong of Syracuse, New York; a brother, Peter Capaccio of East Longmeadow; a sister, Lucy Whitaker of Agawam; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Byron's Funeral Home and the church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association/Massachusetts-Memorial Processing Center, Box 31160, Hartford, CT 06150-1160, or the Arthritis Foundation, 29 Crafts Avenue, Suite 450, Newton, MA 02158-1287.

RICHARD C. FULLER

Richard C. Fuller, 72, of Westfield and formerly of Feeding Hills, died on Sunday, November 26th.

He leaves his wife of 47 years, Claudette L. (LaChapelle) Fuller; a son, Thomas A. Fuller, and two daughters, Denise C. LaPointe and Mary E. Prince, all of Westfield; two brothers, Robert Fuller of Rochester, New Hampshire, and Raymond Fuller of Buffalo, New York; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by a son, David R. Fuller, who died on August 29, 1993.

The funeral was held at Firtion-Adams Funeral Home of Westfield, followed by a Liturgy of Christian Burial in Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church in Westfield. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Westfield.

Donations may be made to the Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice, P.O. Box 1218, Westfield, MA 01086-1218.

ADELE E. KONDRET

Adele E. Kondret, 86, of Castle Hills Road, Agawam, and formerly of Springfield, died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She was the office manager at the former Stacey Supply Co. of Springfield for many years and was the office manager at the former Gilbert & Barker Co. of West Springfield.

Born in Westfield, she graduated from Classical High School in Springfield and Bay Path Junior College in Longmeadow.

She leaves two brothers, Edward F. of Agawam and Bernard E. of The Woodlands, Texas.

A graveside service was held in St. Michael's Cemetery, and the funeral was held at Sampson's Chapel of the Acres.

BEATRICE C. PLOWER

Beatrice "Aunti Bea" C. (Cassanova) Plower, 87, of 50 Cardinal Drive, Agawam, died recently in a local nursing home.

She was a secretary for several years at Strathmore Paper Company and retired in 1959.

Born in Milan, Italy, she lived in Long Island, New York, for 12 years and in Agawam for most of her life.

She was a graduate of Agawam High School and Springfield College, where she majored in psychology.

She was a communicant of St. Anthony of Padua Church and a member of the Senior Center in Agawam.

Her husband, Victor Plower, died in 1971.

She leaves a sister, Eva Rogel of Feeding Hills, and a nephew, Philip Bassi of Westfield.

A memorial Mass was held at the church on Tuesday, November 28th, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery in West Springfield. Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

EDWARD W. SCHMIDT

Edward William Schmidt, 86, of Agawam, a former town official, died recently at an East Longmeadow

nursing home.

He served on the Agawam Town Zoning Committee and was a past president of the Lions Club.

He worked at BayBank Valley for 46 years and was an assistant treasurer there. He also opened BayBank in Agawam and was its branch manager.

Born in New York City, he lived in Springfield for many years before moving to Agawam.

He was a graduate of the former Springfield Technical High School and the American Institute of Banking.

He was a member of Christ Church Cathedral in Springfield and a former member of the Grace Church boys' choir in New York City.

He leaves his wife of 60 years, the former I. Evelyn Wilson; a son, Robert W. of California; a daughter, Nancy L. Schmidt of Southington, Connecticut; a sister, Evelyn C. Jocelyn of Florida; and two grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home, with burial in Center Cemetery, both in Agawam.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Association, 11 Campus Lane, Easthampton, MA 01103, or the cathedral at 33 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA 01027.

ANDREW J. SHOPEY

Andrew J. Shopey, 81, of 33 Belvedere Avenue, Feeding Hills, a survivor of the Pearl Harbor attack, died recently at a local nursing home.

A Navy fire control specialist first class, he was at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, when Japanese carrier planes bombed the Pacific Fleet. He served aboard the cruiser USS Honolulu, which was heavily damaged during the raid, for six years.

He belonged to the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Pearl Harbor Attack Veterans.

He was an electrician for several years and belonged to Springfield Local 7 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for 55 years. He retired in 1982.

He also was a federal employee at the Springfield Armory and Westover Air Force Base (now Air Reserve Base) in Chicopee.

Born in Forestville, Connecticut, he lived in Springfield for two years and in the Agawam area for 50 years.

He leaves his wife of 52 years, the former Marjorie Penniman; two sons, William A. of Southwick and Charles A. of Denver; a brother, Michael of Forestville; and two grandchildren.

The funeral was scheduled to be private, and there were no calling hours. Colonial-Forastiere Funeral

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

LAND COURT

DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

To: Dennis P. McDonald and Dennis Robert McDonald - Case No. 267638 and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 as amended:

Argo Federal Savings Bank fsb

claiming to be the holder of a mortgage covering real property in Agawam, Hampden County being Unit 6, 1485 Suffield Street (Longbrook Estates Condominium) given by Dennis P. McDonald and Dennis Robert McDonald to Heritage Bank For Savings dated May 1, 1991 and recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 7691, Page 5 (now held by Plaintiff by assignment) has filed with said court a complaint for authority to foreclose said mortgage in the manner following: by entry and possession and exercise of power of sale.

If you are entitled to the benefits of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 as amended and you object to such foreclosure you or your attorney should file a written appearance and answer in said court at Boston on or before the 1st day of January, 2001 or you may be forever barred from claiming that such foreclosure is invalid under said act.

Witness, Peter W. Kilborn, Chief Justice of said
Court this 14th day of November, 2000.

Published: November 30, 2000

In Memory Of
Richard
Stepanik
Who Left Us
December 3, 1999
Sadly Missed
By
His Wife, Children
& Grandchildren

OBITS - from Page 6

Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Fire Department, 800 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

DAVID J. THOMAS

David J. Thomas, 84, of 82 Bronson Terrace, Springfield, and formerly of Agawam, a decorated combat infantry veteran, died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

An Army veteran of World War II, he was a technical sergeant in K Company of the 337th Infantry Regiment of the 85th Infantry Division in the Mediterranean Theater in 1944-45.

He saw action in the Italian campaign with Gen. Mark W. Clark's Fifth Army, and was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, the Purple Heart, and the Bronze Star for heroism in April 1945.

He worked at the former American Bosch Corp. plant for 36 years and retired in 1981.

Born in Waterville, Maine, he lived in Springfield before moving to Agawam in 1957. He returned to Springfield recently and was a communicant of St. Anthony Maronite Church.

His wife, the former Ethelyn C. Anderson, died last year.

He leaves two sons, James D. of Springfield and Wayne E. of Agawam; a brother, John of Springfield; two sisters, Freda Annino of West Springfield and Anna Mitchell of Waterville, Maine; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and the church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church or the Richard J. Thomas Scholarship, in care of the church at 419 Island Pond Road, Springfield, MA 01118.

Skateboard Park Committee Seeking Skaters' Input

The committee working on building a new Skateboard Park in the Town of Agawam is seeking the input of the area skaters. If you are interested in helping us design and develop the Skateboard Park, please attend our next meeting.

There will be a public meeting for all skaters and anyone interested in the Skateboard Park on Thursday, December 7th, at 4:00 p.m. at the Agawam Police Station in the Peirce Community Room.

*Our deadline is each Tuesday
at 12:00 noon; however,
we appreciate any articles,
press releases, letters, etc.,
that can be brought in on
Mondays. Thank you for
your cooperation
in this matter ...*

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by Fire Chief David Pisano

Imagine a cold winter night, you're in your living room, all cozy and warm by your fireplace, when all of a sudden it sounds as if a freight train is coming down the chimney. You are experiencing a chimney fire!

Each year, thousands of homes experience this due to improper maintenance of their chimney. These fires can be prevented by making sure your flue is lined and in good repair; by having it inspected and cleaned regularly by a professional; and by learning how to build fires that reduce the build-up of creosote.

The cause of most chimney fires is creosote, which is a by-product resulting from the incomplete combustion of wood. It accumulates on the sides of your chimney and stovepipe as a liquid and later condenses into a solid. As it builds up, it not only blocks the flue, but can ignite into a roaring fire. It is recommended that you have your chimney professionally cleaned and inspected at least once a year.

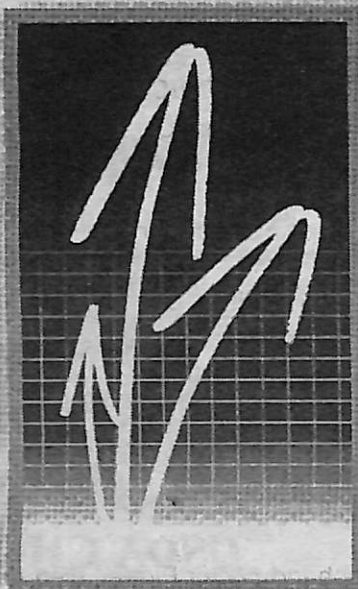
If you use your fireplace or wood stove as a primary source of heat for your home, you should consider a

cleaning and inspection at the beginning and end of each heating season. To select a chimney sweep, don't just base your decision on cost. Ask if they are certified by the National Chimney Sweep Guild or a trade school. Are they active in a state or local guild? How did they learn their craft? Ask for references. A professional chimney sweep will do more than brush out your chimney. They inspect your chimney for damage to liners, cracks due to settling, improper installation of prefabricated chimneys, and much more.

You can cut down on the build-up of creosote by using your fireplace or wood stove properly. Burn it hot; the hotter the fire, the more complete the combustion. Burn hard woods (i.e., oak, hickory, ash, or maple) that have been seasoned for at least one year. Take care not to burn construction scraps, treated wood, wrapping paper, or boughs from evergreens.

If you've never had your chimney cleaned and inspected or it's been a while, the Agawam Fire Department (786-2662) encourages you to take these precautions to prevent a chimney fire in your home.

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On Friday Morning, December 1st...

Groundbreaking Ceremony For Library's Expansion/Renovation

The public is welcome to attend a groundbreaking ceremony at the front of the Agawam Public Library on Friday, December 1st, at 10:30 a.m. to kick off the library's critically needed expansion/renovation project. The public is also invited to share refreshments in the library lobby to further celebrate this momentous day in the library's history with the town officials who made this dream come true for Agawam after about 15 years of effort.

Such library supporters include Mayor Richard A. Cohen, who initially supported the project and submitted it to the Town Council for funding, as well as the Town Council itself, which voted unanimously in favor of accepting a \$1,870,407 grant and approving \$4,250,000 for the town's share of the library's expansion.

Councilors unanimously supporting the project included President Robert A. Magovern, Vice-President Robert M. Young, George Bitzas, Anthony C. Bonavita, Gina M. Letellier, Joseph Mineo, Richard C. Morassi, Dennis J. Perry, Robert E. Rossi, the late Kent Servis, and Jill P. Simpson. We also honor the hundreds of citizens who came forward to show their

elected representatives their support for the library, and we hope they will join us, too.

The December 1st kick-off will highlight the library's two-story addition to the front of the building and renovation of the existing portion of the facility, expanding the library from 15,616 square feet to 36,955 square feet. The Town of Agawam has never built a library since the former Agawam Center Library (which was built in 1924 and used as the town's main library until 1979) was donated by Minerva Davis. The new library, which was built in 1978, was funded by a federal EDA grant to create jobs, and when the grant was reduced, the size of the library was vastly reduced.

For the first time in the library's history, the expanded library will provide an adequate, separate, and

much larger Children's Room from its current grossly inadequate 672 square feet to the 5,637 square feet recommended by library building consultants to provide the enhanced services necessary for a town of Agawam's size.

The project will also include quiet study seating areas currently unavoidable due to crowding and high noise levels, along with separate areas for young adults, audio-visual materials, and large-print materials. Additional space for collections will finally allow for significant collection development to serve approximately 32,000 citizens.

The resulting facility will be completely accessible, will include adequate staff work space, and greatly expand parking from 35 to 101 spaces.

Plans For School St. Property Continue To Move Along

by Hope E. Murray
Municipal Writer

Several town officials met with residents recently regarding the use of a recreational parcel of land on School Street.

Residents present agreed that the third of three plans presented would be the best use of the space by the Parks and Recreation Department.

According to Mayor Richard A. Cohen, the town is in stage two of the process.

"The first stage was acquiring the land from the state," Cohen said. A design firm, Berkshire Design Group (BDG), was hired through a \$20,000 donation from Berkshire Power to design several possible uses for the land.

Originally, six concept drawings were presented to the town by BDG. They were narrowed down to three and one will be chosen with public input.

On November 15th, the plans were presented to the public at the Agawam Senior Center, where "concept three" was the most popular plan.

This concept has two softball fields, one baseball field, four multi-use fields, and two parking areas. The multi-use fields can accommodate football, soccer, and lacrosse (among other sports).

The large space will also have several walking trails and picnic areas.

"It's about 50 acres, give or take," Cohen said.

There is no projected cost for completion at this point. Cohen said factors like lighting, which he said is a "monumental cost," will play a big role in the final cost projection. That will be made once a plan has been selected, according to the Mayor.

Cohen added that concession stands and playground areas will also be part of the plan, and the existing barn will remain and may be used as a museum by the Agawam Historical Society.

"We want to meet the needs of all people, not just young people," Cohen said. "We will try to incorporate a bike path and a retention pond that we could freeze and have skating there."

Cohen said that BDG, in coordination with the town, would continue to modify and change the plans to suit Agawam's needs. The town will meet with the land's abutters and a public hearing will be scheduled.

"There's still a way to go," Cohen said, adding that he's excited to see the project proceed.

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Families



JARED M. SKOLNICK

Jared Skolnick Celebrates His Bar Mitzvah

Jared M. Skolnick of Feeding Hills celebrated his Bar Mitzvah on September 23rd at Sinai Temple in Springfield.

His parents, Attorney Scott E. Skolnick and Myriam Y. Ulloa-Skolnick, were proud to witness Jared's completion of a year's study by the ceremony held at Sinai Temple. Jared was joined by his paternal grandparents, David and Barbara Skolnick of Agawam, and maternal grandparents, Hernan and Yolanda Ulloa of Enfield.

Uncle Hernan Ulloa, his wife, Kathleen, and their family were present, as well as the temple full of well-wishers. The guests celebrated Jared's welcome to Jewish adult society by enjoying a luncheon and festivities following the services.

On Saturday, December 9th...

Agawam Library To Welcome Mrs. Claus

The Agawam Library is sponsoring a visit from Mrs. Santa Claus on Saturday, December 9th from 2:00-3:00 p.m. at Country Estates, 1200 Suffield St., Agawam.

The program includes stories, dress-up activities, and a treat for everyone. Kids of all ages, from two to 102, are invited to share the fun. Please call the library at 789-1550 by Friday, December 8th to sign-up. Cameras are welcome at this event.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

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THE SOUNDS OF MUSIC SINGERS, featuring Richie and Kathy Mitnick (seated, front row) will perform a benefit show at the Agawam Middle School on Thursday, Dec. 7th.

Sounds Of Music Singers To Perform Dec. 7th

The annual benefit Christmas concert by Richie and Kathy Mitnick's Sound of Music Singers has been set for Thursday, December 7th at the Agawam Middle School on Main Street.

Sponsored by the Agawam Rotary Club, the beneficiaries of the proceeds will be the West Springfield/Agawam Parish Cupboard (formerly, the

Open Pantry).

The program will start at 7:00 p.m. Admission will be \$3, plus two (or more) canned goods, or \$5 without the canned goods.

For more information, please call Richie Mitnick at (413) 733-4910.

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Gala Christmas Spectacular At Mohegan Sun

The Agawam Senior Games Athletes will sponsor a trip to Mohegan Sun Casino on Sunday, December 17th to see and hear the Irish Tenors in a Gala Christmas Spectacular!!!

The ticket price will be \$30 and will include a \$20 casino package (\$10 free play on the big wheel and a \$10 meal ticket).

We will leave the Senior Center at 11:30 a.m., arriving at the Casino at 1:00 p.m. We will have time for lunch, etc. The show will take place from 3:00-5:00 p.m. Our bus will leave the Casino at 6:00 p.m. and arrive home at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Tickets will go fast for this extravaganza, so get your name in early!! Call Vi Presz at 786-3164 or Edie Chiba at 786-5539 for details.

Melha Temple Shriners To Hold 2nd Annual Auction

The Melha Temple Shriners will hold their second annual auction to benefit their temple at 133 Longhill Street in Springfield on Saturday, December 2nd.

A preview of items will be from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon, with the auction starting at 12:00 noon and continuing until all items are auctioned off.

The auctioneer will be Joe Rossi of Rossi Auctioneers and Appraisers of Agawam. Rossi and his wife, Rose, have been assisting the members of the Temple in their planning for the second auction, and everything will be in place on Saturday, December 2nd, for the 12:00 noon start.

Items that will be on the auction block will include antiques and collectibles, sports memorabilia, and gift certificates for goods and services.

If you're looking for an unusual item, you may just find it at an auction like this one. So mark the date down on your calendar now and head for 133 Longhill Street on Saturday, December 2nd.

Food and drink will also be on sale during the auction, as well as a bake sale provided by the ladies of Melha Temple.

Bring the family. Cash or check only, and enjoy the day at the second annual "Shriners Auction" at our banquet hall at 133 Longhill Street in Springfield.

For all the hometown news, you turn our pages each and every week ... AAN!!!

Philomena Mercadante Celebrates 90th



PHILOMENA MENNA MERCADANTE (seated fourth from left in first row) celebrated her 90th birthday at the Monte Carlo Restaurant in West Springfield on November 11th with her four children, 13 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and family. She was married to the late Vincenzo Mercadante. Born in 1910, she arrived in the "Little Italy" section of New York City before settling in Feeding Hills at the age of 13. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Our classified ads cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills Center (above Remillard Insurance Agency), or mail them (along with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

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JACOB WILLIAM PARENT

The Parent Family Announces Birth Of Their First Child

Michelle & Bill Parent of River Road, Agawam, have announced the birth of their first child, Jacob William. Born on October 14, 2000, he weighed six pounds, 11.4 ounces, and was 19 inches long.

The maternal grandparents are Joan & Jim Wheeler of Feeding Hills.

The paternal grandparents are Irene & Bill Parent of Granby, MA.

"Poo Chi" Raffle Featured At Jr. Women's Breakfast

On Sunday, December 3rd, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting the Agawam Middle School from 9:00 until 11:30 a.m. to meet with all good boys and girls for a pancake and sausage breakfast. All children can bring their letters to Santa, and make sure to include your return address. Photos will be taken with Santa and the children.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is sponsoring the breakfast. Tickets will be available at the door. Adults are \$4, and children are \$2.50.

A raffle for a "Poo Chi," the Interactive Puppy, will also be held. Raffle tickets may be purchased for \$1 each, or a book of six for \$5.

A collection of non-perishable food will be taken for the Junior Women's Holiday Baskets, which help less fortunate Agawam families have a happy holiday.

There will also be a collection of wireless phones, which will be refurbished, reprogrammed, and distributed to victims in need.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Junior Membership.

Stop & Shop And Ag. Senior Ctr. To Sponsor Dance

Agawam Stop & Shop and the Agawam Senior Center, 68 Meadowbrook Manor, will co-sponsor a dance, Friday, December 8th.

At 6:00 p.m., cold cut grinders, snacks, punch, and dessert will be offered. From 7:00-10:00 p.m., dance to the tunes of Ritchie Mitnick. Cost is \$3. Join the holiday fun!!!

*For all the hometown news,
you turn our pages each and
every week ... AAN!!!*

On Sunday, December 3rd...

T.J. Miller To Present Holiday Offerings At Captain Leonard House In Agawam

If you liked what you saw at T.J. Miller's boutique-style open house two weeks ago, stop in at the Captain Charles Leonard House between 1:00 and 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 3rd, for a peek at her holiday offerings.

As promised, T.J. will have an assortment of holiday decorations ranging in style from "earthy natural" to what she's dubbed "champagne on ice." What's more, everything is meticulously handmade by T.J. in her studio.

"There will be something for everyone," she says, "with prices beginning at \$1. Yet everything is very different from anything you'll see elsewhere this season." Many items that were displayed at the November showing will also be on sale.

T.J. is accepting custom orders for all-natural wreaths, gift tags, handpainted and handmade ornaments, fireside gift baskets, and other items for gift-giving. She can be reached at 789-6161.

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SSGT. DOUGLAS ROSE

SSgt. Douglas Rose Arrives For Duty In Saudi Arabia

Lieutenant Colonel Jorge S. Garza of the United States Air Force, commander of the 320th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron at Eskan Village, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has announced that SSgt. Douglas Rose has arrived safely for temporary duty. Rose is the son of Ralph & Eileen Rose of Feeding Hills.

The 320th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron is responsible for the defense and security of Eskan Village, which has approximately 2,000 residents. The squadron's primary task is the security of the Joint Task Force-Southwest Asia, which oversees the southern portion of the no-fly zone over Iraq.

Garza stated, "I can say with a great deal of pride we have the finest security forces in Southwest Asia and have been recognized as such by the Secretary of Defense and other top military officials. This is due primarily to the outstanding job that troops such as SSgt. Rose are doing."



PAM BASSETT (center) was one of the physically challenged individuals who participated in last month's CROP Walk in Agawam. "The Golden Mile" was the name given to honor the physically challenged who helped raise funds to fight world hunger through the CROP Walk. Pam is pictured with (from left) Paula Tonell, Ellis Tonell, and Judy Kamont. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Residents Participate in "The Golden Mile"

Pamela Bassett has been a resident of Feeding Hills for seven years. She started attending St. David's Church in January of 1999. This year, Pam showed an interest in participating in the Agawam/West Springfield CROP Walk, which started and ended at St. David's Church. She learned that there was a special walk for individuals who were physically challenged call The Golden Mile.

Just this year, a segment of the walk has been designated The Golden Mile. The stretch from St. David's to the point across the street from Take Five Restaurant and back again is one mile, so for those in wheelchairs and for others who would find the full 10 kilometers too demanding, the Walk Committee set aside that

part of the route as a special challenge all its own.

Pam and another person were the first to tackle The Golden Mile, and she is hoping more people will join her next year.

The CROP Walk took place on Sunday, October 15th. There was music, singing, and companionship. Agawam Lions Club members cooked hot dogs to go with the drinks and cookies.

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Join us for a Reception

Join the Agawam St. Patrick's Committee at CB's Restaurant, 385 Walnut Street Ext., Agawam, on Monday, December 4, for a fund-raiser reception.

The scheduled time is 6:00-8:00 p.m., and the cost is \$7 per person. All proceeds go to the Agawam St. Patrick's Day Committee as they prepare for our town's participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Holyoke.

Tickets are available at the door.





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Taking Care Of Your Skin...

In conjunction with the last two articles on skin types and care, I thought I would touch on some frequently asked questions.

Moisturizers claim to soak into your skin and replace moisture. In actuality, they work by keeping your own moisture from evaporating. When applied, it forms a protective barrier between your skin and the air. Oil-free formulas are found in lightweight lotions and in gel form. These are composed of large molecules that cannot be absorbed by the skin, thus forming a water (not oil) binding film on the skin's surface.

Ingredients to look for are mucopolysaccharides and hyaluronic acid. Collagen and elastin are naturally found in living skin and aid in the skin's flexibility. The processed version comes from a cow and also is composed of large molecules. Glycerin is another common ingredient known as a humectant (an agent that attracts water to the skin or hair) to help hydrate. This is also found in oil free moisturizers. Salicylic acid, also known as BHA, is a derivative of aspirin that is used to treat acne and help keep skin clear.

Oil based moisturizers include vegetable, animal, mineral, and plant oils. Known as emollients, they aid in retaining moisture balance by being absorbed into the epidermis (top layer). Botanical oils are naturally derived oils and aqueous extracts of plants, such as rosemary, peppermint, and sage that add a fragrance to a product. Essential oils are pure, concentrated, fragrant, oil that are used in aromatherapy.

Antioxidants are derivatives of commonly used vitamins A, C, and E that are often added to moisturizers and foundations. These actually fight off free-radicals right on the skin's surface.

Toners will bring your skin back to its normal pH. Astringents and clarifying lotions usually contain alcohol and can be drying, so save these for oily skin. If these make your skin too dry, your skin will react by producing more oil later instead of balancing the pH. If this happens, try diluting it with some water (saturate a cotton pad with water, then add your astringent). Oily skinned persons may find that those hot days (on an island vacation) will produce excess oil. Keeping a small bottle with you can help refresh your skin so the pores do not clog up. **Tip:** Keep some in the fridge for a refreshing splash.

Benzoyl peroxide is a disinfectant and drying agent used to fight acne. Salicylic acid is a beta-hydroxy acid and mild exfoliant used to dry up blemishes.

When it comes to face masks, a clay or mud based product is deep cleaning, helps absorb oil, draw out impurities, and tighten pores. This is great for oily skin as extra drying ingredients such as corn or wheat starch, charcoal, or titanium dioxide are added. Moisturizing masks contain moisturizers and nutrients to help the skin retain its own natural moisture. If you have combination skin, you may use both of these products where needed to balance your skin type. A mask is a great treat every couple of weeks or before a special event. It will help to clean out pores by drawing our impurities and to slough off dead skin cells.

One last point to remember - most common skin problems stem from hormonal changes, sun damage, and the use of wrong skin care or makeup products. Be patient and try different products until you find one that works for you, then be faithful.

Thought for a smile: A special pet greeting you at the door.

And remember ... **Beauty is our Business!**

December Events Sponsored By Golden Age Club, Chapter 2

* **Wednesday, December 6th:** Christmas banquet at Chez Josef. Social hour at 11:00 a.m.; dinner served at 12:00 noon. Entertainment by "The Three Baritones" with Frank Jackson. (Reservations for banquet must be made by December 3rd; call Eileen Collier, 786-1007.)

* **Thursday, December 7th:** Bus trip to Central Congregational Church in Fall River, MA. Dinner to be served by the International Culinary Institute. Entertainment by "Forever Christmas" (sights and sounds of the holiday season).

* **Monday, December 11th:** Bus trip to Mohegan Sun.

* **Wednesday, December 20th:** Regular meeting at Senior Center at 1:30 p.m., including a Christmas party and carol singing. A collection of canned goods will be held at this meeting for the Parish Cupboard.

No board of directors' meeting will be held during the month of December.

Senior citizens living in Agawam are invited to attend our meetings and join the Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter 2.

December Events For Golden Age Club, Chapter One

* **Friday, December 8th:** Board of Directors' Christmas meeting at Bertucci's in West Springfield.

* **Wednesday, December 13th:** Christmas dinner meeting at Chez Josef with beautiful music. Entertainment by Richard Mitnick at the piano.

* **Wednesday, December 27th:** Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Magician John Rioni will entertain us with his bag of tricks.

All Agawam seniors are invited to join Chapter One. Please remember to renew your membership for the year 2001!

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, letters, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ...

ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

Knights Of Columbus To Host "Breakfast With Santa" December 3rd

The John F. Kennedy Council #5585 of the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a "Breakfast With Santa" Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, December 3rd. The breakfast will be held in St. John's Parish Center on Main St., Agawam.

The breakfast will be served from 7:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The price will be \$3 per person, with children 12 and under free.

Santa will be there to talk to the kids and hand out presents. Photos with Santa will also be available.

The #5585 Kennedy Knights of Columbus represents members of the four Catholic churches in Agawam and Feeding Hills: St. John the Evangelist, Sacred Heart, St. Theresa/St. Anthony.

Tickets are available from all #5585 Council members and will be available at the door. Chairman of the breakfast is Al Taupier. Committee members are Don Sorel, Jim Coppola, Gerry Parent, Emmett Walsh, Jo Frogameni, Dick Smith, Ralph Minie, and Jim Taupier.

The Kennedy Council recently completed a successful Tootsie Roll Sales Drive on the Agawam/West Springfield bridge during The Big E to raise money for physically and mentally challenged children. The Council came in third place in the District for monies raised.

Thanks to all our friends and neighbors who contributed to this drive.

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MR. & MRS. JAMES MCPHERSON

Christina Dutton Of Agawam Weds James McPherson

Brian K. Dutton of Feeding Hills and Anne M. Christopher of Agawam are pleased to announce the wedding of their daughter, Christina Dutton, to James McPherson, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Alvah McPherson of Corapeake, North Carolina.

The wedding was held on November 11, 2000 in Agawam.

The couple plans to reside in Pelham, Massachusetts.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

Town History Book Perfect For Gift-Giving

Whether you're a long-time resident or new to Agawam, the just-published Images of America title *Agawam & Feeding Hills, Massachusetts* (put out by Arcadia Press for the Agawam Historical Association) is sure to be a welcome holiday gift.

Visit Agawam of years past and see landmarks such as Randall Field, Bowles Airport, and the Feeding Hills train station. Agawam's rich agricultural heritage is showcased, as well as the Agawam Fire Department and Riverside Park. An especially fascinating chapter is devoted to several dozen photos reproduced from glass negatives taken in Agawam Center in 1895-6. In all, over 200 photographs from 1875-1950 chronicle an Agawam and Feeding Hills of another era.

The Agawam Historical Association produced the book as a way to raise funds for the ongoing renovation of the Elm Street Fire Station into the Agawam Historical & Fire House Museum, and it has proven to be very successful thus far. The 400 books ordered initially by the Historical Association were quickly sold, as is a good portion of the second 400 ordered.

Copies are available at the Feeding Hills branch of Woronoco Savings Bank during regular banking hours and the Town Clerk's Office of Agawam Town Hall at 36 Main Street during regular business hours. The price of the book is \$18.99, and all royalties will benefit the Agawam Historical & Fire House Museum.

Out-of-town orders are welcome as well. Send your check made payable to the "Agawam Historical Association" to the Agawam Historical Association, Post Office Box 552, Agawam, Massachusetts 01001. The cost per copy is \$20.12 shipped book rate, or \$22.19 shipped Priority Mail.

Theresa Barlow Slates Annual Craft Sale

Theresa Barlow of the Blue Shutters will be holding her annual Craft Sale on Saturday, December 2nd, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and on Sunday, December 3rd, from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m., at 969 Shoemaker Lane in Feeding Hills.

There will be homemade muffins, breads, jams, jellies, pickles, and more. Wood crafts such as small cabinets and shelves, along with Santas and snowmen, will also be featured.

"Dolls by Nancy" will be with us again this year. There will be gift-ready items along with the opportunity to sample many of the goodies.

Stop in if only to say, "Hi!"

Holiday Craft Fair At Greenleaf Community Center

A Holiday Craft Fair will take place on Saturday, December 2nd, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Greenleaf Community Center, 118-1/2 Parker Street, Springfield. The Community Center is located directly behind the 16 Acres Library.

Thirty-three local crafters will be on hand to sell Christmas ornaments, silk and live floral arrangements, baby items, wood products, ceramics, jewelry, candles, pottery, and other handmade items. A crafter-donated raffle and bake sale will be available.

Come to the fair sponsored by the Targets Drum and Bugle Corps and start your holiday shopping.

Christmas Tree Sale

Starting Saturday, November 25th

Agawam

Call Fire Department

Annual Fundraiser

102 Suffield Street, Agawam

(near Walnut Street Extension)

A Partial List Of The Organizations We Volunteered

Time Or Financially Supported

James Clark School Kindergarten

Deputy John Murphy, Russell Deputy Fire Chief Memorial Fund

Agawam Boy Scout Troop 78

Worcester Fallen Firefighters Memorial Fund

Agawam Soccer Association

Agawam High School Cheerleaders Trip to Florida

John A. DiNapoli, Fallen Holyoke Police Officer

Multiple Sclerosis Society in support of an Agawam resident

Agawam High School Yearbook

Rebecca Murphy, Westfield Firefighter to Firefighters Combat Challenge in Las Vegas





AGAWAM UNICO MEMBERS, led by Art Chase (seated, center) and his committee, are still making plans for a "Pancake Breakfast With Santa" at the Polish American Club in Feeding Hills on Sunday, December 10th from 8:00-11:30 a.m.

UNICO's Pancake Breakfast To Benefit Michael Cote

Agawam UNICO is pleased to announce that its annual "Pancake Breakfast with Santa" will take place on Sunday, December 10th, at the Polish-American Club, 139 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, from 8:00 to 11:30 a.m.

All proceeds raised from this year's breakfast will go to benefit Michael Cote, a 4-1/2 year-old boy who was born blind (a condition known as anapthalmia). Michael underwent two surgeries before his first birthday. He is one of triplets and lives in Agawam.

Please keep this date open on your calendar, meet Santa, and support Michael. Admission is \$4 for adults, and free for children under nine years of age. Tickets are available from any UNICO member, chairman Art Chase at 786-4265, and Bruno Maule at 789-0082.

Tickets will also be available at the door.

Holiday Open House At Captain Leonard House

The public is cordially invited to an open house to be held at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 633 Main Street, Agawam, on Sunday, December 10th, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The house will be decorated for the season, and the trustees of the house will serve as hosts for the event.

The *Agawam and Feeding Hills* book will be available for purchase. Author David Cecchi will be signing copies of his book, which is part of the *Images of America Series*. The book showcases Agawam's past through a series of photographs and postcards from the 1880's to the 1950's.

Also featured at the open house will be well-known harpist Theda Torlai playing seasonal music.

The house was built in 1805. Located on the route between Hartford and points north, the house served as a popular stagecoach for travelers. In 1938, Mrs. Minerva Davis renovated and transformed the house into a building designed for community use. Trustees of the house will be available to point out the historical significance of the structure and to share anecdotes about the house.

Refreshments, including mulled cider and cookies, will be served by the trustees throughout the afternoon.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

"Grand Colleen Pageant" In Agawam On Sat., January 6th

A "Grand Colleen Pageant" will be held at the Agawam Middle School (68 Main Street, Agawam) on Saturday, January 6th, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

The eligibility guidelines for the pageant are as follows:

- * Female.
- * Single (never been married and/or never had a child).
- * No less than 16 years-old by March 17, 2001 and a junior in high school; nor more than 22 years-old by March 17, 2001.
- * Resident of Agawam or Feeding Hills section of Agawam.
- * Must claim Irish ancestry.
- * Completion of resumé.

Entries must be mailed by Friday, December 15th. The five finalists will be selected on January 6th.

These finalists will be honored at the "Grand Colleen Ball," where one will be selected as Grand Colleen.

The Grand Colleen will receive numerous gifts from local donors, a scholarship, and a trip for two to Ireland provided by Travel Magic and presented by the Agawam St. Patrick's Day Committee.

Application entries must contain the following information: name, address, date of birth, telephone number, signature, and the date of the entry.

Please mail all entries to P.O. Box 825, Agawam, MA 01001-0825. Upon receipt of application entries, a formal application will be mailed.

For further information, call Susan Dawson at 789-3400. (Immediate family members of the Grand Colleen Pageant Committee are ineligible.)

Jr. Women Need Food Donations For Holiday Baskets

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is in desperate need of non-perishable food items for delivery of their holiday baskets. These baskets will be delivered to several needy families residing in Agawam and Feeding Hills.

Each year, the Agawam Junior Women's Club delivers approximately 30 to 40 baskets containing a variety of food, including a turkey or ham, assorted vegetables, and canned goods. An assortment of toys will also be distributed through this program.

Due to several unforeseen circumstances, the amount of donated food is in very short supply. Once again, we are asking the entire community if they could possibly share their blessings and good fortune with several others in their area by making a donation to our holiday basket program.

We would greatly appreciate any donation, including frozen turkeys, canned hams, canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, packaged dessert items, and any other non-perishable food items. Gift certificates to local grocery stores would also be helpful in completing the holiday baskets.

Drop-off locations include the Agawam Public Library, Westfield Savings Bank, Smart Start Preschool, Fitness First, and the Mayor's Office at Agawam Town Hall.

Please call Dee Adams at 786-9085 after 5:00 p.m., or Paula Macaulay at 786-0511 for further information. Please remember that sharing with others, especially those who are less fortunate, is a large part of the holiday season. We thank you for all of your support at this great time of need.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.

E.B.'s

Let Us Help Plan Your Holiday Party For Home Or Office

- * 150 Buffalo Wings (mild, midway, hot, or TNT)
- * Party Tray of Chicken Nuggets (small or large; with dip)
- * Pan of Lasagna (quarter, half, or whole pan)
- * Homemade Meatballs
- * Ziti w/Marinara Sauce (quarter, half, or whole pan)
- * Chicken and Broccoli over Ziti (quarter, half, or whole pan)
- * Cold Cut Tray (small or large; with or without Roast Beef)
- * Tossed Salad with Dressing of Your Choice (quarter, half or whole pan)
- * Pan of Cut-Up Sausage w/Peppers and Onions (quarter, half, or whole pan)
- * Eggplant Parmesan (quarter, half, or whole pan)
- * Raw Vegetable Platter (small or large)
- * Stuffed Shells w/cheese in Marinara Sauce
- * Chicken Francaise
- * Other Selections From Our Menu Available - Please Inquire

E.B.'s Party Planner has become a Party Tradition.

Call or Stop by to Discuss your Party Needs!!

Agawam 789-3525

385 Walnut St. Ext. * Ask for Ed or Charlene

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42 Main St. * Ask for Mike or Ed

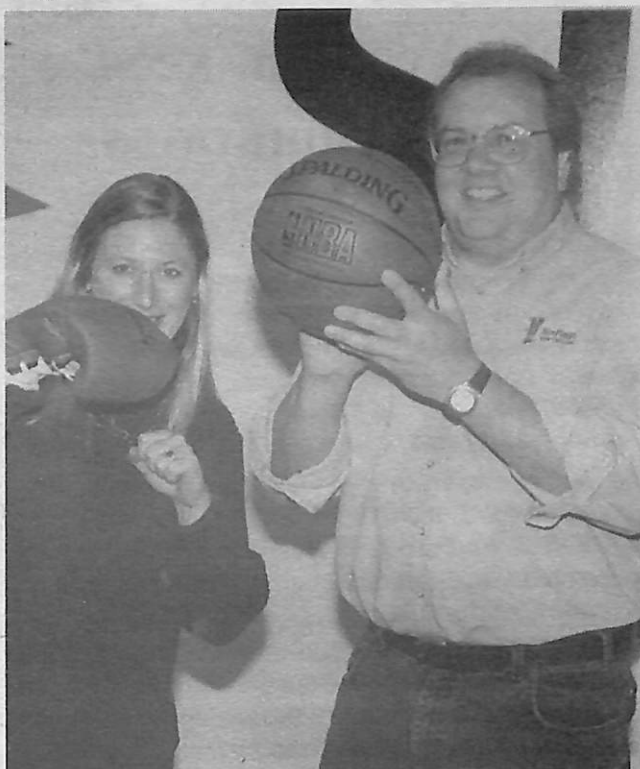
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BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS board members Amy Parker Sauve of Longmeadow Flowers and Donald Trella, Human Resources Mgr. of Six Flags New England, try out sports memorabilia to be auctioned at the Dec. 7th Special Charity Auction.

One-Of-A-Kind Sports Items To Highlight Charity Auction

Six Flags New England human resources manager Don Trella, a member of the Big Brothers Big Sisters board of directors, has friends at the New England Patriots, the Boston Celtics, and the New York Knicks who have donated one-of-a-kind items for the Thursday, December 7th special charity auction. It will be held at the Colosseum Banquet House in West Springfield. The auction will benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hampden County.

Auction-goers can save \$5 by purchasing advance tickets, now for sale, by calling the Big Brothers Big Sisters office at 781-4730, extension 11. Tickets will be available at the door for \$10.

In addition to a close relationship with those major league sports teams, Trella spends his free time as a fight judge for HBO televised boxing events. He has obtained a collector's item from undisputed light-heavyweight boxing champ Roy Jones, Jr.: a boxing glove signed by Jones, holder of a 41-1 record with 33 knockouts.

A silent auction will begin at 5:30 p.m., during which the Eric Bascom Trio will provide quiet jazz. The live auction will begin at 6:30 p.m., conducted by Roy Scott of Channel 57 who will be assisted by Jack Briggs, community relations officer of United Cooperative Bank.

Proceeds will support the agency in its work to match children from single-parent homes to caring adult mentors.

Silent Auction

The silent auction items include a selection of gift certificates to area restaurants and tickets to special events such as performances of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra and CityStage plays.

As in past years, there will be bargains for those who watch the bidding closely.

For more information about Big Brothers Big Sisters, call 781-4730 or visit online at www.bigbrothers-sisters.org.

If you have dropped off any photos to our office for Boy Scout activities, church events, etc., please pick them up after they appear in The AAN...

Keenan & Molta To Host Seminar For Seniors, Dec. 5th

Three Realtors from Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates will come together to help local seniors make real estate decisions. Realtors Doreen Ayotte, Priscilla Harman, and Kathy Rose will share their expertise at a seminar for those 55 and older.

The Active Adult Educational Seminar, scheduled for Tuesday, December 5th from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House on Main Street in Agawam, will address several issues facing seniors, including real estate and legal decisions, reversible mortgages, moving to an independent living facility, and finding good in-home care.

Ayotte, Harman, and Rose are all specially trained to deal with the unique real estate needs of seniors. All three have completed training to gain the Seniors Real Estate Specialist designation, or SRES. The training includes helping seniors sell the family home or buy rental property, manage capital gains and tax issues, and more. Currently, there are more than a dozen realtors from Coldwell Banker Keenan and Molta Associates who hold this designation.

The realtors will be joined at the seminar by an attorney, bank officials, and a representative from Quail Run Estates and others. Barbara Perman, owner of "Moving On," will also attend, sharing the unique services of her business which assists seniors with all phases of a move.

The Active Adult Education Seminar will include a luncheon and raffle. **Seating is limited, so pre-registration is required** by calling 748-7541 or 748-6137.

Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates is the largest locally owned real estate company in Western Massachusetts, the second largest real estate company in the greater Springfield area. The firm is the principal broker for Cendant Mobility; the largest relocation company in the world. Five offices and approximately 75 sales associates provide comprehensive home selling, home buying, mortgage and relocation services to the greater Springfield area.

*For all the hometown news,
you turn our pages each
and every week ... AAN!!!*

Spfld. Turnverein Announces Christmas Programs

On Saturday evening, December 9th, the Annual Christmas Dinner/Dance will be held at the Springfield Turnverein. The dinner will be served from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and will feature baked stuffed chicken with all the trimmings, along with dessert and coffee. The Twilights will provide music for dancing and singing. Come join us in the holiday spirit! Admission is \$14; please make your reservations by December 6th by calling Christa, 786-0143.

On Sunday, December 10th, at 2:00 p.m., the Turnverein will hold its Annual Christmas Cultural Program. The program will include the film "Weihnachten" with Hermann Frey (who is a famous singer of folk music in Germany).

There will be traditional Christmas songs. Kurt Strehl will demonstrate the making of the delicious German Christmas drink called "Feuerzanger Bowle," which will be available for tasting along with other Christmas goodies for refreshments. Admission is free.

The Springfield Turnverein is located at 176 Garden Street at the junction of Route 57.

Agawam Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Fri., Dec. 1st: Macaroni & cheese, stewed tomatoes, corn muffin, peaches.

Mon., Dec. 4th: Pork a la king, rice pilaf, mixed vegetable, w/w bread, orange.

Tues., Dec. 5th: Rotini alfredo w/spinach & julienne ham, baked stuffed tomato, rye bread, choc. pudding.

Wed., Dec. 6th: French meat pie, Normandy mix, roll, apple crisp.

Thurs., Dec. 7th: Golden carrot soup, turkey salad sandwich, broccoli salad, mixed fruit.

Fri., Dec. 8th: Mediterranean scrod, fluffy rice, peas, w/w bread, apricots.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

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Saturday 9:00am to Noon**

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Church News

News & Notes From Ag. Congregational

On Sunday, December 3rd, at Agawam Congregational Church (745 Main Street, Agawam), we will celebrate an Advent Communion Service, with Rev. Earl Eisenbach speaking on "Keeping Hope Alive." Suanne Hansen and her daughter, Jessica, will be lighting the Advent candle of "Hope."

The following new members will be received into the church: Rick & Michele Cormier, Glenn & Shanna Florian, Phyllis Gosselin, Lori Langford, Linda Magistri, Candyce Roberts, Amy Majewski, Gretchen Gielgel, Tracy Martin, and Shirley Chechile.

The All-Church Family Advent Program begins at 5:30 p.m. Each Sunday evening, there will be a pizza supper with the viewing of a Christmas video. This Sunday, the movie will be "The Christmas Box" starring Richard Thomas, Annette O'Toole, and Maureen O'Hara. This is a beautiful Christmas story that will touch your heart and teach the true meaning of Christmas with a message of renewed hope and never-forgotten love.

During the morning worship, child care is available for infants and toddlers. The Senior Choir, under the leadership of Ellen Cogen, will be singing "Sanctus" by Charles Gounod and "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" by J.S. Bach.

Pastor Earl and his wife, Barbara, are members of the Order of St. Luke (an ecumenical world-wide healing organization) and are available for prayer after the service. Also, following the service there is a fellowship hour in Bryan Hall.

Men are invited to join the **Men's Prayer Time**, which meets at 7:45 a.m. each Wednesday morning. We read from the devotional guide "Upper Room" for meditation and discussion, with time for coffee and fellowship. This is a great time for men to come together and be strengthened. All are welcomed.

The **midweek service** continues on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. This is a service of prayer, sharing, and communion focusing on the healing ministry of Jesus.

On Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m., "**Grief Share: Your Journey From Mourning To Joy**" continues in the Friendship Room. This is a grief support group led by Pastor Earl and his wife. The series is Christ-centered and Biblically-based, and includes sharing and healing prayer. This is open to all who are struggling with the loss of loved ones.

Nocturnal Adoration Society To Meet Dec. 1st

The Nocturnal Adoration Society of Agawam and West Springfield will meet at Saint Thomas Church in West Springfield to conduct and pray the Office of the Blessed Sacrament, Friday, December 1st from 7:00-

11:00 a.m.

All are invited to come and spend an hour in Eucharistic Adoration.



GETTING READY FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL to be held Dec. 1st at Agawam Congregational Church are Ann Tapply (left) and Barbara Eisenbach.

Christmas Tree Festival: On Friday evening, December 1st, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., the Agawam Congregational Church will host a Christmas Tree Festival and will be selling two-, three-, four-, and five-foot lighted and decorated artificial trees, along with wreaths and similar Christmas decorations. Invite your friends to share in this wonderful evening.

There will be a \$3 admission fee; refreshments will be served. All are welcome. Please call the church office (786-7111) if you need a ride.

Youth Fundraiser - Christmas Wreaths (\$10) - You may sign-up at the coffee hour or call Debbie Most at 789-1195.

Members of the community are invited to participate in all the church events. For further information, the church office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every weekday; call 786-7111.

Sacred Heart Church To Present Christmas Concert

Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills is presenting its Annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 10th at 7:00 p.m.

The Senior Choir will be performing the Christmas Cantata, "The Night Christ Was Born." The Junior Choir will be singing some old and new Christmas carols.

Both choirs are under the direction of Sacred Heart's music director, Jeannette Denoncourt and accompanied by pianist/organist, Anna Mitchell. Last year, the Sacred Heart Band was introduced. This year, our young band group, under the direction of John Lennon, will be playing a medley of Christmas carols.

After the concert there will be a reception in the Parish Center. The public is invited and admission is free. We only ask that you bring a non-perishable food item for the needy of our community.

News From Faith Bible Church

Our Building Dedication Service will be held on Sunday, December 10th at 2:00 p.m. at 370 Shoemaker Lane. All are invited to see the new addition on our building, including our new Youth Chapel.

We are very excited to finally see the work being completed, as this was quite an undertaking for us and was well needed. We have grown so and had no space for visitors and new faces, but now we can accommodate all who wish to attend.

We hope you will drop by and say hello.

We have a poinsettia sale going on to decorate the church for the holidays. Purchases can be made after the service on Sunday.

We will have a couple of different sizes to choose from.

Our choir will be practicing on Monday evenings and Saturday mornings for the next few weeks for Christmas.

Women's Bible Study is continuing on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 at the church. Nursery will be provided.

Gifts & Good Taste

Sponsored By
Women's Ministries - Bethany Assembly of God
Agawam

Friday, December 1st

4:00pm to 8:00pm

Saturday, December 2nd

10:00am to 3:00pm

Luncheon on Saturday

at Captain Charles Leonard House

Main Street - Agawam Center

Jesus Is Coming

The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. --1 Th. 4:16

A Scottish preacher once said, "The doctrine of the Lord's second coming, as it appears in the New Testament, is like a lofty mountain that dominates the entire landscape."

Commenting on that statement, author A. J. Gordon adds, "No matter what road you take, no matter what pass you tread, you will find the mountain bursting on your vision at every turn of the way, and at every parting of the hills. What first struck me in reading the New Testament was this: Whatever doctrine I was pursuing, whatever precept I was enforcing, I found it fronting toward and terminating in the hope of the Lord's second coming. All paths of obedience and service lead on to that mountain."

Someone has pointed out that there are more than 300 references to Christ's return in the New Testament. One fact is clear--Jesus is coming back. Each day we are getting closer to that climactic moment. Today could be the day!

Are you ready? Knowing that Christ could return at any moment is a blessed hope and a comfort to all who have put their faith in Him (1 Th. 4:18; 5:11; Ti. 2:13). But He is also coming in fiery judgment on those who don't know Him and who reject the gospel (2 Th. 1:7-9).

Be ready! Jesus is coming! --RWD

*The Lord has said He will return
To judge the world someday;
Are you prepared for Him to come
Or hoping for delay? --Sper*

Don't complain about what this world is coming to; proclaim the One who is coming to this world.



Reflections...
submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the New Life
Christian Church,
Suffield, CT
(413) 789-1377 or
toll free (877) 643-9801

Making Sure We Are Ready...

During the concluding days of His earthly ministry, Jesus pointed His followers' attention to the matter of His second coming. In His first coming, which we celebrate at Christmas, Jesus came to earth in the form of a baby. He experienced life much the way each of us does, with the only noticeable exception being that, unlike us, Jesus never sinned. His second coming will be dramatically different. **At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.** Jesus gave certain hints to indicate what would be going on just before His second coming; then He said, **"When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."**

God doesn't like to surprise people. To prepare the world for that first Christmas when Jesus first came as a baby, God had spoken through the Old Testament prophets. For more than 700 years, and through various spokespeople, the Holy Spirit delivered messages about Jesus' first coming, when He would come to be the Savior of all the earth, for all of humankind.

Similarly, both the Old and the New Testaments speak to us concerning Jesus' second coming, when He will come to wrap up human history. While it's hard to grasp what the actual details are, suffice it to say that Jesus' second coming will be a dramatic event. **On that day there will be no light, no cold or frost. It will be a unique day, without daytime or nighttime - a day known to the Lord. When evening comes, there will be light. The Lord will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one Lord, and His name will be the only name.**

Jesus explained the purpose of His first coming to a man named Nicodemus, which is recorded for us in John 3:16. **"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."** In the first coming, Jesus came to reconcile sinners to God. All any person could do about Jesus' first coming is to respond to it, to accept what God has done for us.

Jesus explained the purpose of His second coming in the passage cited above, **"your redemption."** Jesus' second coming is about redemption. To redeem something or someone means to fulfill a promise, or to get something back. Jesus' second coming will fulfill all of God's promises, while at the same time Jesus is coming to get His people back. All any person can do about Jesus' second coming is to

News & Activities From Sacred Heart

Christmas Concert: Our annual Christmas Concert will be held on Sunday, December 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the church. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the needy. A reception will follow in the Parish Center. Please reserve this date. See you there!

Choir News: Both our choirs need more members. Our numbers are dwindling. Both BOYS and GIRLS from grades two through eight belonging to Sacred Heart Parish are invited to join our Junior Choir. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00 p.m. The Senior Choir is for MEN, WOMEN, and YOUNG ADULTS 16 and over. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Both choirs sing twice a month on special occasions. PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING US. Any questions, call Jeannette Denoncourt at 786-6290.

WEEKLY MASSES

Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.; **Monday:** 7:00 p.m.; **Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday:** 8:00 a.m.; **Thursday (Eucharistic Prayer Service):** 8:00 a.m.; **Saturday (Vigil Mass):** 4:00 p.m.

make sure we are ready for it.

People's response to Jesus' first coming is by nature retrospective. We are supposed to do something; namely, accept Jesus as our Savior, because God has *already done* something. People's response to Jesus' second coming, however, is by nature more prospective. We are supposed to do something; not only accept Jesus as Savior but embrace Him as Lord, because God *will do* something.

Our job is to make sure we are ready for Jesus' second coming. How can we make sure we are ready for Jesus' return, which could occur at any time? God provides us with simple, easy to understand and easy to follow, instructions.

Psalm 19 says, **The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul.** The law of the Lord is perfect for several reasons, among them being that it informs us that we need God's help! None of us has managed to live up to God's standards. We are not sinners because we always sin, we are sinners because we sometimes sin. Because we sin, we need the forgiveness God offers. We need to accept God's forgiveness on His terms. We are not in a position to negotiate with God.

The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. Once we have accepted the fact that we need to be forgiven by God, and have received forgiveness on His terms by accepting the Savior, we should live differently. The world lives under the rules, or statutes, of "situational ethics." That's a fancy way of saying people do whatever they want to, and come up with excuses to justify their behavior. That's what got humankind into trouble in the first place! "Situational ethics" is very complicated and unreliable. Life doesn't have to be that complicated, or hard. Each of us can be truly wise, by living according to the trustworthy rules God gives us.

God wants each of us to be ready for Jesus' return. That's why He gave us His law and statutes. **"By them is Your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward."**

Events At First Baptist Church In Agawam

We welcome Rev. Gage Hotaling to our pulpit this Sunday. As our Supply Preacher, he will be leading us in worship through the Advent Season.

This Sunday, Rev. Hotaling's message will be "Getting Ready for Winter," and his scripture reading will be 2 Timothy 4:6-13, 21. The Deacons will assist Rev. Hotaling in the Communion Service. Advent logs, candles, and devotional booklets are being offered to members for home devotions during the weeks of Advent.

Following worship, there will be an opportunity for fellowship and coffee. Then there will be Church School classes for all ages.

Two opportunities for adult study are offered: the Bible class and the "All Ears" Christian music appreciation class (during which members will hear and discuss several Christian musical pieces).

Preparations are being made for the Christmas Workshop to be held on December 10th following worship. This event is sponsored by the Christian Education Committee, and all ages are invited to participate in the crafts and games.

The Hand Bell Choir rehearses each Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m., and our Youth Group meets each Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m.

The Thursday evening Bible Study will meet at the home of Dot Major at 7:00 p.m.

For more information, please call the church office at 786-7300 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

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Parish News & Notes From St. John's

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2000: Our annual extravaganza called the Christmas Bazaar will be held this Saturday, December 2nd, and the doors will open at 9:00 a.m. Raffle returns may be made at the Parish Office during the week, but they must be returned by 2:30 p.m. on December 2nd. Don't miss out on the prizes of \$500, \$300, and \$200.

GIVING TREE: The Giving Tree is up this weekend, with the "booties" indicating Christmas wishes for many in our area in need. We invite you to take one of these, fulfill the wish, and return it to the church by December 15th (wrapped and with the "bootie" on the outside). We hope this program enriches all of us as it has for the past several years. The Giving Tree generated a request for a special item - a stroller for twins. If you have one that might be available, please call the Parish Office at 786-8105.

ADVENT - A SEASON OF HOPE, A SEASON OF WAITING: On Sunday afternoon, December 3rd, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., Sr. Mary Clare Finn will offer an afternoon of prayerful reflection. Come and make room in your life and heart for growing closer to your God.

SPECIAL REQUESTS: We have need of two seventh-grade Religious Education teachers for the next semester beginning in January. Why not give the Parish Office or Annette Reynolds a call at 786-8105.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: The John F. Kennedy Council #5585 K of C will be hosting "A Breakfast with Santa" on Sunday, December 3rd, at St. John's Parish Center. Pancakes and sausages will be served from 7:30 a.m. 'til 1:00 p.m. Santa will be there to talk to the kids and hand out presents. Cost: \$3 per person (children under 12 are free).

LAY MINISTRY: The Diocese continues to offer programs in Lay Leadership to equip parishes with personnel trained and ready for the many ministries which are available in our parishes, especially St. John's. Why not call the Lay Ministry Office for a catalogue, 452-0658, or reach them on the web at layministry@diospringfield.org.

Valley Community Church's Notes And Activities

Advent is a counting time because we are counting time - the time not only when we will celebrate the arrival of the Christ Child, but the time when the Christ King will come again.

As you take time for your Christmas shopping and card writing, gift wrapping and party-going, tree decorating, and cookie baking, won't you also take time for the reason for the season?

Take time to worship, to praise, and to celebrate that the Savior has come and will come again.

Let us help you to take that time by inviting you to worship, praise, and celebrate with us at Valley Community Church, 152 S. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

* **Sun., Dec. 3rd:** 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship and Communion Service (nursery, cherub worship, and junior worship service available); 10:30 a.m., Fellowship and refreshments; 11:00 a.m., Adult Christian Education and Sunday School; rehearsal for Dec. 17th Christmas Pageant.

* **Mon., Dec. 4th:** 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Ladies' Bible Study (Claire deJongh, facilitator).

* **Wed., Dec. 6th:** 7:00 p.m., Senior Choir rehearsal.

* **Thurs., Dec. 7th:** 7:00 p.m., Praise and Prayer Service.

* **Sat., Dec. 9th:** 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., Chicken Supper, Dunn Hall. The community is invited (\$8 adults, \$4 children under 12).

Valley Community Church is a non-denominational church, and anyone wishing more information may call our shepherd, Pastor Gene deJongh, at 786-2445.

Activities At St. Anthony's & St. Theresa's

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon.-Wed.: 9:00 a.m., St. Theresa.; **Thurs.:** 7:00 p.m., St. Theresa; **Fri. & Sat.:** 9:00 a.m., St. Anthony; **Sat.:** 4:30 p.m., St. Theresa; **Sun.:** 8:30 a.m., St. Anthony; 11:00 a.m., St. Theresa.

Holy Day Vigil: 6:00 p.m., St. Anthony; **Holy Day:** 9:00 a.m./6:00 p.m., St. Theresa; **Rosary:** One half-hour before daily Mass.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fri., Dec. 1st: 6:30 p.m., St. Anthony/St. Theresa 3rd Annual Family Christmas Party held at Storowton Carriage House, West Springfield; **Sun., Dec. 3rd (First Sunday of Advent):** 9:15 a.m., CCD for grades K-6; **Mon., Dec. 4th:** 7:00 p.m., Cantata Rehearsal at St. Anthony's Hall; 7:00 p.m., CCD in Parish Education Center; **Tues., Dec. 5th:** 7:00 p.m., Parish Commissions meeting in the Parish Education Center; **Wed., Dec. 6th:** 7:00 p.m., Cantata Rehearsal at St. Theresa's for Singers and Pageant cast; **Thurs., Dec. 7th:** 7:30 p.m., 4:30 Choir Rehearsal at St. Theresa's; **Fri., Dec. 8th:** 6:00 p.m., Mass Vigil of the Immaculate Conception; **Sat., Dec. 9th:** 10:30 a.m., Cantata "Dress Rehearsal" at St. Theresa's; 4:30 p.m., Mass (Brightside Angels available); **Sun., Dec. 10th (Second Sunday of Advent):** 9:15 a.m., CCD for grades K-6; Brightside Angels available at the 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Mass; 7:00 p.m., Christmas Cantata at St. Theresa's ("2000 Decembers Ago"); **Mon., Dec. 11th:** 6:00 p.m., 8:30 Choir Rehearsal at St. Anthony's; 7:00 p.m., CCD; **Tues., Dec. 12th:** 7:00 p.m., Parish Council meeting in the Parish Education Center; **Thurs., Dec. 14th:** 7:30 p.m., Advent "Evening of Reflection" with Fr. Jude at St. Theresa's.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

The time leading up to Christmas is the season of Advent, beginning on December 3rd. We await the coming of Christ with joyful expectations, remembering the birth of Christ in Bethlehem. We are called to be watchful, to take time to think about the presence of God in our daily lives, and to ask ourselves how prepared we are to receive the Lord into our hearts.

During the four weeks of Advent, the "Advent Wreath" (consisting of four candles indicating a sign of the season) is blessed within the Mass. Each week, a candle will be lit by a family within the parishes until all four are brightly lighted, signifying the weeks of waiting for Christ.

We can prepare ourselves to greet him when he comes again in glory, by saying "A Prayer-a-Day" and including the following suggestions for the first week of Advent:

* **Sun., Dec. 3rd:** Open the door - Lord, help me to open our doors to those needing welcome.

* **Mon., Dec. 4th:** Faith - God be with me when I take the risks that faith requires.

* **Tues., Dec. 5th:** Be playful - Lord of Joy, enliven my heart.

* **Wed., Dec. 6th:** Give without cost - Help me to be generous and cheerful to the poor.

* **Thurs., Dec. 7th:** Expect the unexpected - Teach me to love the unexpected, Lord, and to answer when you call.

* **Fri., Dec. 8th:** See heaven and earth - Lord, Open my eyes and my heart to the splendor of creation.

* **Sat., Dec. 9th:** Choose wisely - Be with me, Lord, when I make the many choices of each day that add up to a life.

"A Prayer-a-Day" suggestions will continue weekly as we "Prepare ye the way of the Lord."

**"Church News" is just
one more reason why
you turn our pages
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ADVERTISER NEWS!!!**

News & Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Our First Sunday of Advent Service of Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. and will include a special "Hanging of the Greens" celebration in our sanctuary. Matthew Granger will be Lector. Ushers will be Sue Strycharz and Charlie Horenstein. Children are invited to attend worship with adults and assist with setting up the Nativity following worship. Nursery care is provided for the very young.

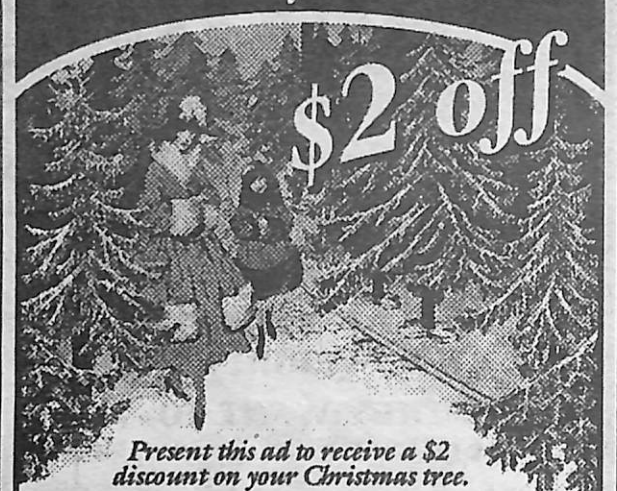
Confirmation Class will meet next on Wednesday, December 6th, at 6:30 p.m. The class will meet again on Friday, December 8th, at 6:45 p.m. for a trip to Sinai Temple in Springfield.

The flower committee will again be taking orders for **Christmas poinsettias**. The poinsettias are only \$11 for a 7-1/2 pot with eight to 10 flowers. Your order needs to be placed with us by December 6th. The flowers will be available for you to take home after the morning service on December 24th, or you may give them to the church to be donated to a shut-in. Please let us know what you would like to do with them when you order. Also, remember that you may purchase the flowers in memory or celebration of a family member or friend. This will be listed in the December 24th bulletin. If you have any questions or would like to place an order, please call any member of the flower committee or see us after church. Thank you, Sharon Rozanski (786-8743), Betty Bava (786-0679), and Margaret Johnson (525-7480).

Holiday Happenings - Deck the Halls: An Advent "Hanging of the Greens" Celebration on December 3rd at 10:00 a.m., followed by the Nativity set-up on the front lawn of the church. Trip to "Bright Nights": December 16th at 6:00 p.m. Caroling on December 23rd at 5:30 p.m. Candlelight worship on December 24th at 11:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to these celebrations of the season! **On the calendar:**

Fri., Dec. 1st: 6:00 p.m., Radio Club; **Sat., Dec. 2nd:** 7:00 p.m., Greening set-up; **Sun., Dec. 3rd:** 10:00 a.m., Deck the Halls/Nativity set-up; 12:00 noon, Church of Redemption; **Mon., Dec. 4th:** 3:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; **Tues., Dec. 5th:** 3:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Council; **Wed., Dec. 6th:** 3:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Confirmation; 7:30 p.m., Choir; **Thurs., Dec. 7th:** 3:15 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:00 p.m., Church of Redemption.

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A HOLIDAY MESSAGE...



FROM
THE
HEART

BY BRAD WRIGHT, PASTOR
AGAWAM CHURCH OF THE BIBLE
Meeting 10:00 AM Sundays at the
Agawam Jr. High 789-2904

PUTTING THE THANKS-GIVING BACK INTO THANKSGIVING!!

Thanksgiving and the following holidays are a wonderful time of the year. I want to briefly look at a story that may help us in putting the giving of thanks back into the holidays. The story is found in Luke 17:11-19. I encourage you to get out a Bible and read it. I'll summarize as follows. Jesus heals ten lepers who were crying out for mercy. One of the ten, when he saw that he was healed, gave glory to God and fell before Jesus thanking Him. Jesus then makes the point that the giving of thanks should have come from each of those who were healed, and not just from this one man. I see five requirements for the giving of thanks:

* FIRST, to thank God for what He has done for us, we must be aware of what He has DONE for us. If these men were not healed, they would have no occa-

sion or opportunity to thank Jesus for what he had done! What has God done for you? What are some of the many blessings that you feel have really come from the hand of God?

* SECOND, to thank God for what He has done for us, we must be FULL OF THANKS (grateful) for what He has done for us. Are you grateful for what He is doing, or are you always looking for something else? Do you find it as easy as I do to start focusing on what I don't have - or all the shortcomings of what I do have! "If only" I had this, "if only" the circumstances of life were better, THEN I would be truly happy. In a nutshell, we become very selfish in our thinking and in the FOCUS of our lives. This FOCUS by its very nature creates discontentment and a lack of joy in our lives. Here is the key: when we are not content with God Himself and what He has given us, we will start FOCUSING on what we don't have rather than what God has already given us. When we do this, our gratitude naturally diminishes (we're not that grateful for what we do have, we just want more - or we want things to be different!). However, gratitude is the chief ingredient of Joy. By being ungrateful for what God has given us, we are losing the Joy and Contentment that we are really looking for in life. Do you appreciate the gifts that God gives you? Do you appreciate what He is doing in your life? Do you appreciate ... God? Are you indeed grateful? ?

* THIRD, to thank God for what He has done for us, we must THANK GOD for what he has done for us. In other words, the giving of thanks to God is just that. It is saying to God, "Thank you my family (even Uncle Albert!)." It is saying: "Thank you for my health,

for providing for me, for the community I live in." In thanking God, it's not just the thought that counts, it's the giving of thanks that counts! The Bible says: "In everything give thanks." ?

* FOURTH, to thank God for what He has done for us, we will often need to TAKE THE INITIATIVE no matter whether others join us. This man who was healed chose to stop and give thanks, not knowing whether any of the others would join Him (and they didn't!). Being aware of and grateful for God's mercies and then choosing to give thanks will often require giving thanks when it may not be the popular or easy thing to do. ?

* FIFTH, to thank God for what He has done for us, we will often be required to give thanks PUBLICLY. The Psalmist says this again and again. "Oh give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples." We see it throughout Scripture where the giving of thanks is done not privately, but publicly! God wants His mighty deeds to be known, not kept quiet!

How can we apply this passage this to Thanksgiving and following holiday season? I'd like to suggest three ways. First, take time this holiday season to "count your blessings." Secondly, YOU say a prayer to God and thank Him in the quietness of your own heart. Third, take time as a family - or in your extended family - for each to give thanks to God out loud. There is no greater way to celebrate this holiday season than by the heartfelt giving of thanks by His people.

Grace Lutheran Church To Host Holiday Fair

Grace Lutheran Church will hold its 22nd Annual Holiday Fair on December 9th from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in the church hall, 1552 Westfield St., West Springfield.

The fair will feature local craft persons and traditional church shops. There will be a sausage grinder luncheon served from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Proceeds from this event will go to the Women in Christ group to help fund their missions.

For all the hometown news, you turn our pages each and every week ... AAN!!!

St. John's Plans Christmas Bazaar For Saturday, December 2nd

It is that time again to treat yourself to a collection of fine holiday delights.

Come and browse, as the music fills the air, through the variety of booths ranging from wreaths to jewelry, delicious baked goods to plants, candy and toys, at this year's St. John's Annual Christmas Bazaar at 884 Main Street.

The doors will open to the public at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 2nd and close at 3:00 p.m. Santa Claus will greet the children of all ages as they browse and shop, and for a small donation fee, if you choose, you may have a

Polaroid picture taken with Santa!

A snack bar will provide refreshments for those shoppers who would like to take a shopping break.

Joan Malinoski, Paula Raiche, and Betsy Ciempa are co-chairwomen for this special event.

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Spotlight on Business

Sarat Ford Receives "Relay For Life" Award

Sarat Ford recently won the "Relay for Life" Most Improved Team Award from the American Cancer Society. This award is given to the most improved team from the previous year that participated in the "Relay for Life" event last May at Springfield College.

Sarat Ford's team donated \$10,230 to the American Cancer Society, with an improvement of over \$5,000 from the previous year.

The "Relay for Life" event was held with over 86 teams participating and raising more than \$266,000. This is an annual event that will be held again in 2001 on June 1st and 2nd.

Anyone interested in starting their own team can contact Nancy Hart at the American Cancer Society at 734-6000, ext. 203.



SARAT FORD EMPLOYEES Jeff Sarat (far left) and John DeLucchi (far right), co-captains of the Sarat Ford "Relay for Life" team for the American Cancer Society, accept an award from the Cancer Society's Nancy Hart for being members of the "Most Improved Team" during the recent event that raised over \$266,000 for the Society. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Legal Memo

by
Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



NEGLIGENCE & TORT

Supermarket Warehouse Accident - Trucker Squished By Blueberries

The plaintiff, an independent truck driver, delivered 24 pallets of blueberries to the defendant's warehouse.

The defendant's regulations required that the truck drivers themselves wrapped all pallets to the defendant's specifications before leaving the warehouse. While the plaintiff was wrapping one of the 1,500-pound pallets, the defendant's forklift driver tried to compress the row of pallets, crushing the plaintiff's body in the process.

An ambulance transported the plaintiff to a local hospital, where he spent 11 days. He was diagnosed with cervical strains and multiple contusions upon admission, and developed depression and a chronic ileus during his stay.

The plaintiff then flew home to be with his family. While back home, he underwent a lumbar laminectomy, which unsuccessfully sought to alleviate his lower back pain. His wife cared for him during the remaining months of her life. He lives in constant pain, and his doctors have said that he is at the point of maximum improvement, his only recourse being a heavy regimen of painkillers.

The plaintiff filed suit, alleging negligence against the defendant. The jury was out approximately two hours before returning with a verdict awarding \$2.5 million to the plaintiff and \$500,000 to the estate of the plaintiff's wife.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts 01030. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.

For all the hometown news, you turn our pages each and every week ... AAN!!!

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, letters, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

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The interest rate is based on borrowing up to 80% of the equity in your home. If borrowing up to 90% of the equity in your home, your introductory interest rate will be 7.99%. Upon expiration of the introductory rate, your rate will automatically revert to prime plus 1%.

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Walking For Breast Cancer Awareness



FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW, Ayre Real Estate participated in the Rays of Hope walk for the cure of breast cancer. The team, known as "Ayre's Angels," raised over \$1,000 for breast cancer research and awareness. Back row: Pat Bertone-Gross, Linda Ayre, Christine Sarno, Carol Teixeira, Kathy Ayre, and Donna Roberts. Front row: Millie Mazzie, Frank Mazzie, Dianne Vecchiarelli (team captain), Grace Benton, Debbie Pond, Carol Miller, and Mary Breglio.

Westfield Bank Releases Update For Third Quarter Of 2000

Donald A. Williams, President of Westfield Bank, recently announced the third-quarter results for the Westfield Mutual Holding Company and its primary subsidiary, Westfield Bank.

For the quarter ending 9/30/00, total assets were at \$678,437,748. According to Mr. Williams, "This represents an increase of \$45.5 million since 9/30/99 and an increase of \$19.0 million for the current quarter."

Mr. Williams continued, "We are extremely pleased with our growth both from last year and for the quarter. Westfield Bank has continued to benefit from a strong local economy and the willingness of the area's consumers and business owners to select a local community bank for their financial needs. We plan to continue to expand our area of service with the addition in 2001 of another location on Liberty Street in Springfield and one on Northampton Street in

Holyoke."

The new locations are former branches of Fleet Bank and will enable Westfield Bank to bring a strong community bank presence and level of commitment to each neighborhood.

Loan demand continued to be strong as commercial loans increased over \$8.5 million for the year. Deposits grew by \$32.7 million for the year and the number of new checking account customers for the year 2000 is in excess of 2,100, a 15 percent increase from 1999.

Westfield Bank is one of the largest community banks in the area, offering a full range of financial services for business and personal needs. The Bank maintains locations in Agawam, East Longmeadow, Southwick, Springfield, West Springfield, and Westfield.

ECS of Agawam Announces Promotions

Environmental Compliance Services, Inc. (ECS) would like to congratulate Senior Project Manager Jim Sweitzer, who recently received full licensure as a Massachusetts Licensed Site Professional (LSP).

Issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Board of Registration of Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals, this license enables Mr. Sweitzer to render waste site cleanup activity opinions and to submit these opinions to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). ECS currently employs six LSPs.

ECS would also like to welcome the following individuals who recently joined their corporate headquarters in Agawam.

Amy Ringuette, Senior Technician; Lisa Terlecky, Office Manager; Jennifer Christopher, Environmental Claims Specialist; Eileen Kane, Accounting Clerk; and Jennifer Mercadante, Administrative Clerk.

Additionally, the following individuals recently joined the ECS team at their Florida location: Paul

SEE ECS - Page 24

Pam Savioli

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LIABILITIES

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Last three months' bank statements; stock and bond statements; market value of real estate; previous two pay stubs; IRS, 401K, Pension Plan information.

IF SELF-EMPLOYED

Tax records for past two years; current profit and loss statement; corporate returns for two years.

PAM SAVIOLI is a full-time professional Realtor with over 13 years of experience. Call Pam at 413-748-7565 with any real estate questions or check her web site at <http://pam.savioli.realtor.com>.

New Appointments Named By Big Y

Big Y Foods is pleased to announce the following new appointments:

Jana Conlin of Feeding Hills was appointed to the position of Warehouse Operations Manager, reporting to the Director of Distribution & Support Services. Prior to holding this position, Jana was employed as a Distribution Center Manager at School Specialty in Agawam.

Laura Walker of Old Saybrook, Connecticut, was promoted to the position of Employee Services Specialist, reporting to the Sr. Employee Services Specialist. Prior to holding this position, Laura was a Training & Development Coordinator at the Big Y Guilford, Connecticut store location.

Melissa Serra of Southwick was promoted to the position of Promotions Coordinator, reporting to the Advertising Specialist. Prior to holding this position, Melissa was the Administrative Assistant to the Grocery Category Managers at the Big Y Store Support Center.

Edward Wesley of Pittsfield was promoted to the position of Staff Accountant, reporting to the General Accounting Manager. Prior to holding this position, Edward was the Baker Manager at the Big Y North Adams, Massachusetts store location.

Big Y operates 46 stores within Central and Western Massachusetts and Connecticut, making it the largest privately owned and American owned supermarket chain in the region. Founded in 1936 by brothers Paul and Gerald D'Amour, the company employs over 7,600 people.

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WESTBANK VICE PRESIDENT DAVID BARSZCZ (far right) awards two round-trip airline tickets to Lorraine Gorham, owner of Lorraine's Fashion Showcase in Holyoke.

Holyoke Businesswoman Wins Round-Trip Airline Tickets From Westbank

Lorraine Gorham Named Winners Of Westbank's Commerce 2000 Drawing

Lorraine Gorham, owner of Lorraine's Fashion Showcase in Holyoke, was awarded two round-trip airline tickets after being named the winner of Westbank's Commerce 2000 drawing.

Ms. Gorham's business card was drawn from entries received at Westbank's booth during the Commerce 2000 show on November 2nd. The tickets are valid for travel anywhere in the continental United States and Canada.

"From a promotional perspective, we wanted to do

something a little different this year," explained David Barszcz, Westbank Vice President. "Our theme was 'We'll give your business a real lift.' Given that, and the fact that the show is held at Westover Air Base, we thought airline tickets would be a nice tie-in. We're very pleased to award these tickets to Lorraine."

Westbank is a 13-branch, \$417 million community bank based in West Springfield with branch offices in Chicopee, East Longmeadow, Feeding Hills, Holyoke, Ludlow, Southwick, and Westfield.

ECS - from Page 22

Acosta, Project Engineer; Stephany Favre, Junior Project Manager; and Vishal Katoch, Project Geologist.

Due to substantial company growth, ECS moved its Florida location on October 1st from Brandon to 1209 Tech Boulevard, Suite 202, Tampa, Florida 33619.

ECS is a full-service environmental consulting firm that was established in 1982. With its corporate headquarters in Agawam and additional offices in Boston, Brattleboro, Vermont, Madison, Connecticut, and Tampa, Florida, the ECS team consists of more than

100 professionals experienced in virtually every aspect of environmental services.

ECS can be reached at 1-800-789-3530 or on the worldwide web at www.ecsconsult.com.

On December 8th At Chez Josef...

Dave Ratner To Speak At Agawam Chamber Holiday Breakfast

Dave Ratner and Sandy Gentile of Dave's Soda & Pet City, Inc. will be the guest speakers at the Agawam Chamber of Commerce Annual Holiday Breakfast on December 8th at 7:15 a.m. at Chez Josef.

Sponsored by Dan and Nancy's Antiques, the breakfast will include a welcome to the following new members: the Agawam Housing Authority; William F. Frain; Giovanni's Pastries; and Hands on Health.

What's more, this event will recognize the Affiliated Chambers of Commerce of Greater Springfield "Super 60" honorees: Allen Lawnmower/EDM Distributors; Conrad Fafard, Inc.; Environmental Compliance Services, Inc.; RiverBend Medical Group; and Spectrum Analytical.

Shooting Star Dance Center and the Agawam High School Choir and Musicians will provide holiday festivities.

Reservations to the Agawam Chamber Holiday Breakfast are \$12 and must be made in writing and in advance.

Reservations may be made by faxing or mailing Laurie Brunelle, Events Coordinator, Affiliated Chambers of Commerce of Greater Springfield, Inc., 1441 Main Street, Suite 136, Springfield, MA 01103-1449; fax: (413) 731-8530.

* * *

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For Your Health

Tips From The Baystate Health System...

Don't Let The Stress Of The Season Ruin Your Holidays

It's the holiday shopping season. Those popular video games you are looking for are nowhere to be found. When you finally find something that's on your shopping list, it's out of your price range.

And, after spending an hour in the store being pushed around like a ping-pong ball, you find out it's going to take you another 20 minutes in line at each store to purchase anything.

However, you can't even look forward to leaving the mall because your gas tank is empty from the 45 minutes you spent trying to find a parking spot and when you get home, you know your spouse is going to pressure you into spending the holidays with their side of their family.

Stress.....holiday style.

"As wonderful as the holidays can be, they can also be a stressful time for many. Added to the demands of an already hectic schedule, and especially for a family which is experiencing some internal conflict, even the simplest of situations can become overwhelming at this time of the year," said Dr. Benjamin Liptzin, chairman, Department of Psychiatry at Baystate Health System.

First your spouse.

According to Liptzin, one way of keeping the peace is to divide your time. "One option might be to have your holiday dinner with one family, then to share dessert with the other," he suggested. "Then next year you can switch courses."

Kim Mezzetti, acting wellness program coordinator at Baystate Medical Center, added that when faced with stressful situations or thoughts at any time of the year, such as the aggravation of long checkout lines, deep breathing will help you to focus and compose yourself.

Mezzetti suggested several preventive strategies such as eating right, reducing your caffeine intake, participating in regular physical activity, practicing daily relaxation techniques, and getting enough sleep to help you better handle those extra stresses that may occur, especially during the holidays.

Remember, also, during the hectic times to take a minute to laugh. According to researchers, laughter is a great medicine to relieve stress because:

- * it improves breathing by allowing the lungs to expand and take in more oxygen.

- * it reduces blood pressure by improving circulation and speeding delivery of oxygen and nutrients throughout the body.

- * it heightens mental function by increasing delivery of oxygen and production of a hormone that improves alertness and memory.

- * it helps to relieve pain by increasing delivery of oxygen and the level of endorphins, the pain-killing chemicals produced by the brain.

So take a minute when you are tired and stressed, and have a good, old-fashioned belly laugh. You will feel better and get a great energy boost.

Influenza & Pneumonia Clinic At Sacred Heart

An influenza and pneumonia clinic will be held Thursday, December 7th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. for Agawam residents only, 65 years-old and over, at the Sacred Heart Church Parish Center, Springfield St.,

Feeding Hills.

Please bring your insurance card information. A \$1 donation is being collected to go towards holiday baskets for the needy.

"For Your Health" is just one more reason why you turn our pages each and every week ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

A Flip of the Coin A real Christmas story.

Read more about this in today's FOR YOUR HEALTH column.

from

Dan Pender

Marriage & Family Therapist

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Free Seminar On Alzheimer's Offered At The Atrium

The Atrium on Cardinal Drive in Agawam is sponsoring a free seminar, "Understanding Alzheimer's: What Every Caregiver Needs To Know."

The seminar is open to the public and is designed to answer your questions about Alzheimer's disease - understanding behaviors, communications techniques, safety concerns in the home, and more.

The presenter is Susan Brooks, RN, MS, MEd, Director of the Atrium and well-known educator and expert in the field of Alzheimer's.

Refreshments will be served. Seating is limited. Call The Atrium to reserve a space at 413-821-9911.

* * *

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice prior to your event. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter...

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Your Back And Your Health

by
Dr. Joseph S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

Options To Medications...

Many patients in chronic pain are dissatisfied with the efficacy of their prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) pain control medications. A total of 78 percent are willing to try new treatments, and 43 percent would spend more on a treatment if they knew it would work, according to a national U.S. survey commissioned by Partners Against Pain, an educational program sponsored by Purdue Pharma.

The survey of more than 1,000 people revealed that two-thirds (66 percent) of the surveyed pain patients said their OTC pain medication is not completely or very effective. In addition, of those that rely on prescription drugs, 52 percent said the therapies are not completely effective or very effective.

Many surveyed patients reported suffering from pain for years, with 62 percent experiencing pain for at least five years. Even for those patients who say their pain is under control, it often has taken a long time to get relief. Some 43 percent of patients suffered for a year or more before they felt their pain was under control, and for 21 percent, it took five years or longer.

"Pain is a serious public health problem for patients and the physicians who care for them. When inadequately treated, pain interferes with patients' quality of

life," stated Kathleen Foley, M.D., professor and neurologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Partners Against Pain advisor.

Partners Against Pain commissioned the survey of more than 1,000 people to identify the scope of pain management, including access and barriers to treatment within the United States. According to the National Institutes of Health, pain costs Americans more than \$100 billion each year in health care costs and lost productivity.

In their search for relief, many chronic pain patients reported extensive efforts. On average, they have seen three physicians for their pain and have taken 3.7 different kinds of prescription medications as part of their pain treatment. Those who suffer from severe or constant pain traveled far for help, with more than 20 percent of surveyed patients traveling 51 miles or more for treatment.

Oftentimes a dramatically different approach is undertaken when the patient visits a doctor of chiropractic. The chiropractic approach does not rely on surgery, hospitalization, and medication that can be both dangerous and needlessly costly for patients and their insurance providers. Restoration of the integrity of the spinal column and its relationship with normal neurological function oftentimes result in reduced pain and better health. Soothing and pain-reducing spinal adjustments have been developed over the last century, during which chiropractors have practiced, improved, and refined their techniques.

The staff at Schlaffer Chiropractic Office includes both female and male practitioners. Feel free to contact us. We are located at 192 Shoemaker Lane in Agawam. Call us at 789-1369 or 789-1073.

much to be thankful for. I'm crazy about my job, I love coming into the office! I work with wonderful women, and my patients are the best. I am very fortunate that I found a profession that I feel so strongly about.

As a chiropractor, one aspect of my job is to accurately diagnose a patient's condition. This can lead to some interesting detective work at times. After a thorough history and examination, the patient receives a chiropractic adjustment. This is where the patient receives hands-on health care. The whole goal is to restore joint mobility and nerve function.

SEE NELSON - Page 27



Food For Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

"Classic" American Foods (Part 1 Of 2)

It doesn't take much - a smell, a taste, or even a certain dish - and you're immediately transported to another time or place.

Take chicken noodle soup, for example. This all-American classic brings back more memories of childhood than other foods, according to a recent survey commissioned by the Canned Food Alliance (CFA).

More than 1,000 women, ages 25 through 34, were asked to choose one dish out of seven that reminded them of their childhood. The familiar soup won by a landslide, receiving 43 percent of the votes - more than double the votes for the runner-up, beef stew. For 15 percent of the respondents, baked beans took them down memory lane. The other nostalgic dishes included in the survey were chicken a' la king, chicken salad, tuna noodle casserole, and fruit crisp.

Testing, Testing

Several classic American recipes were tested as part of a recent nutrition study conducted by the University of Massachusetts (UMass). The study compared the nutritional content and sensory appeal of recipes made with canned ingredients versus those same recipes made with fresh or frozen ingredients. As available, canned-prepared versions of the recipes were also included in the research study.

In analyzing the nutritional content of the recipes, the researchers compared a variety of nutrients, including protein, carbohydrates, fat, vitamins, and minerals. The researchers also analyzed sensory appeal by evaluating taste, appearance, color, aroma, and texture of dishes prepared with canned, fresh, and/or frozen ingredients.

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association. She can be reached at 850 Springfield St., Suite 4, Feeding Hills, MA 01030, (413) 786-2957. Accepting Tufts, Secure Horizons, and Harvard Pilgrim.



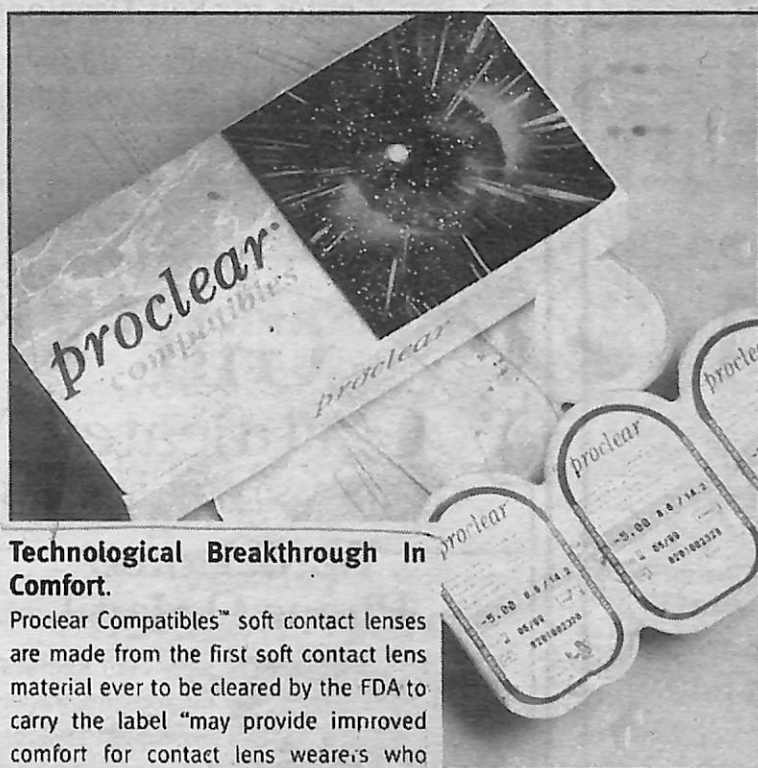
Chiropractic Care

by **Dr. Tami Nelson**
Chiropractic Physician
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

Thanksgiving...

It doesn't seem possible that Thanksgiving has already come and gone. It came so fast I didn't get a chance to write a Thanksgiving article! I truly have

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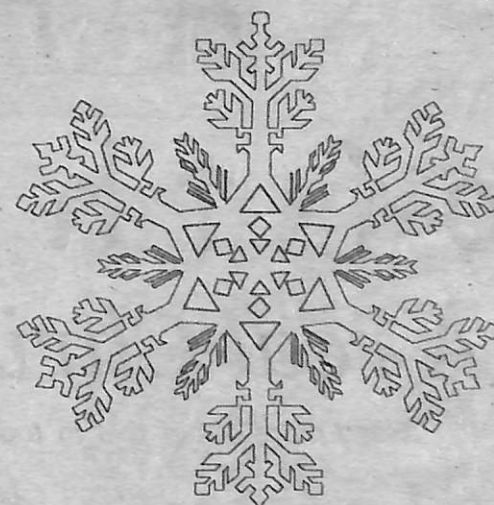
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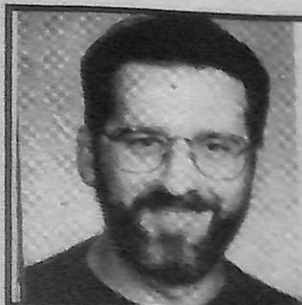
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"Let's Talk About It"

by Dan Pender
Marriage &
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A Flip Of The Coin...

As a young boy, I remember each year at Christmas, seeing how hard my parents struggled to make ends meet. Christmas was a time of innocence for each of us six kids. We naively hoped against hope that Christmas morning would bring that special, meticulously-wrapped present that would fill our expectations for yet another year.

I remember our annual walk to get our Christmas tree. My siblings and I eagerly anticipated this Christmas Eve ritual with my dad. What I didn't look forward to, though, was dad staying out after his half day of work drinking.

It was dusk when he got home. We were all bundled up ready to go, waiting inside for him. It was cold and drizzling. We walked the seven blocks to the corner of 55th Street and Fifth Avenue in Brooklyn. The selection of trees was (as usual) sparse, but the price was right. Dad's grade school buddy sold Christmas trees on that corner each year. The Christmas trees leaned up against the walls of the corner bar. We stood by dad as he slipped into the bar with his buddy for a quick "holiday pop." We all sat motionless bundled up in a booth, drinking our usual ... Coke with a cherry.

We quietly listened in on their annual slurred ritual of rekindling old times. I was once again embarrassed to watch them playfully argue over their yearly scorecard of "flips." The coin toss was the finale of their otherwise yearly contact. Dad was a betting man. Dad always picked tails. He always said, "Tails never fails." If the flip turned out to be

"heads," dad had to pay double the price. But when tails didn't fail, we carried home our *free* tree.

I had just turned nine years-old, and dad assured me that this year I was his lucky charm. I was on top of the world as I anxiously looked (along with my siblings) as the coin flipped through the air. Dad called, "Tails!" We anxiously watched as the coin disappeared on the cold, dark, and wet pavement among the fallen needles. Dad and his friend got down on their knees to carefully brush aside the needles to referee the outcome. The coin faced skyward - "tails!" With one brief glimpse, we all shouted, as if in a Christmas chorus, "Yes!" "Til next year!" my dad gleefully proclaimed.

We then somehow agreed on a tree from the pick of the litter, no easy task in itself. Dad assigned our positions alongside the wet tree. We bounced our way home, each holding onto a branch, pausing only to watch the streetlights change. Mom would usher the front doors open as we carefully twisted and turned through our narrow hallway, up one flight of stairs, and eventually turning into our living room.

Bedsheets lay draped over the rug. The treestand awaited its fitting as dad gave a fresh cut to the fat trunk. We'd playfully awaited the raising of the tree. Tinsel, lights, and ornaments were in hand as we nervously watched dad unsteadily mount the ladder to tie off the tree with string onto the two painted nails

that yearly awaited use in the corner walls.

One final adjustment was needed under the tree (to tighten the stand) before we could splash it with life. Then it happened! You could hear it pop! It was dad's other knee. He lay under the tree, unable to move and screaming at first. Then, silently, he lay still, grimacing in agonizing pain. Mom called for help and the next thing we knew, dad was being carried down the stairs and carted off in an ambulance.

The tree never did get done that night. The next morning we woke up, looking for mom and dad. Mom never came home and was still at the hospital. My grandfather packed us into his car and drove us all down to the hospital. Mom and dad were surprised to see that pop-pop had somehow smuggled us all in. We exchanged no wrapped gifts that morning, but instead were the gifts itself.

Please e-mail or write me with one of your holiday stories that you would be willing to share. I will maintain your anonymity, unless you indicate otherwise.

Dan Pender, MA, MFT, is a Marriage & Family Therapist with a local private practice. He is a Clinical member of the American Association of Marriage & Family Therapy and can be reached by e-mail at dpmft449@aol.com or P.O. Box 449, Agawam, MA 01001, (413)789-4460.

NELSON - from Page 26

As chiropractors, we're actually helping the body heal itself, without using drugs or surgery. The body is amazing in its ability to heal. A chiropractor helps facilitate the body's natural ability by restoring joint motion in the spine. Chiropractic is very effective in healing the body naturally.

Chiropractic is over 100 years-old. As the profession grows, more and more clinical evidence and research studies prove the effectiveness of chiropractic care. In the spirit of the holiday season, I am truly thankful for being in the chiropractic profession.

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.



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Arts



THE NEW ENGLAND BRASS QUARTET will be appearing at the "Festive Holiday Cabaret" on Sunday, Dec. 3rd at the Church of the Good Shepherd in West Springfield.

Brass Quartet To Perform At "Festive Holiday Cabaret"

The New England Brass Quartet returns by popular demand to the Church of the Good Shepherd for a fabulous cabaret evening of great music and complimentary desserts. Brigham Hall will be transformed into a winter wonderland with candle-lit tables for the Sunday, December 3rd performance at 7:00 p.m.

For those who have enjoyed the Quartet's previous performances, you know that this group excels in every way. If you have not heard them before, you are in for a real treat! These fine, professional musicians have performed throughout New England and in a concert tour of Europe. They are especially engaging in a cabaret setting and have delighted audiences with their fun-filled performances.

Mark your calendars so that you don't miss this pre-holiday event! This is a wonderful, casual opportunity to invite family and friends to a holiday event that is fun and affordable. You may reserve tables to suit the size of your party. Be sure to make your reservations early as seating is limited and we expect a sold-out performance.

General admission is \$11; seniors and students, \$9. Desserts and beverages are complimentary. Call 734-1976 for reservations. If after hours, please leave a message. The church is located at 214 Elm Street in West Springfield.

Coming To The Senior Center...

Agawam Cultural Council To Host Vaudeville Act

On December 1st, the Agawam Cultural Council will present Carol Pedigree at the Agawam Senior Center, 68 Meadowbrook Manor, at 7:30 p.m. This location is a change from the flyer announcement. The title of her show is "Hats Off To Americana."

Carol Pedigree uses an assortment of props, such as hats and bouquets of flowers, to add an exciting dimension to her one-woman vaudeville act. Watching her perform her vaudeville routine, the first thing you wonder is, "Where on earth does she get all that energy?"

Describing herself as "a vaudevillian," Pedigree puts on an hour-long show that's non-stop song, a little dance, fancy hats and feather boas, and lots of fun. Her routines grew out of two loves - performing and the desire to bring joy to others.

She leads her audience in an historical, musical review of the 1890's through the 1950's, donning and doffing colorful feather boas, plumed hats, sheer scarves, and fur stoles. Her show is punctuated with humor.

Pedigree is a Greenfield native and worked as a medical secretary before earning her bachelor's degree in art history and religion from Smith College. While working as a nursing home activities director in Franklin County and on Cape Cod, she decided to work up a vaudeville routine for residents with material to which they could relate. "I love to perform," she says.

Pedigree's gift for entertaining is evident as she saunters through a room. She worked up the "Hats Off To Vaudeville" show in 1993, using the music and the stories of that era that she herself enjoys. "I like the melody, the rhythm, and the harmony which you find in '20s, '30s, and '40s music."

She is the mother of two grown children and averages up to three shows a week, traveling throughout the area in her blue Ford Taurus station wagon with the "HTSOFF" number plate.

This entertaining program is being sponsored by the Agawam Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and is free and open to the public.

If you visit the Advertiser News' new office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills (above Remillard Insurance), please note that our main entrance is in the back. Please park on the side of the building and use the back entrance. Thank you...

Great Pretenders To Hold Auditions For A "Fun" Mystery

The Great Pretenders will be holding open auditions on Saturday, December 2nd (1:00 to 3:00 p.m.) at the Agawam Senior Center, Wright Street, Agawam, for "Murder Takes The Stage."

This fun, old-fashioned mystery will be directed by Gini Andrewes and features roles for six men and seven women of all ages. The production will take place in Agawam next spring on May 11th, 12th, 18th, and 19th.

To review a script or for further information, call the Great Pretenders' "hotline" at (413) 821-9932.

And if you have ever thought it would be fun to participate "behind the scenes," come to the auditions to let us know you are interested in joining the Great Pretenders.

Ag. Comm. Artists To Present Watercolor Demonstration

The Agawam Community Artists are pleased to present Stephen Calcasola of Enfield, CT, who will do a watercolor demonstration at the organization's next meeting.

This meeting will be held on Monday, December 4th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Agawam.

Under the auspices of the Agawam Cultural Council, meetings and demonstrations of the Agawam Community Artists are open to the public.

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Stallone Draws "First Blood"...

Many of you no doubt still associate Sylvester Stallone with Rocky Balboa from the timeless "Rocky" film series. Stallone, however, also brought the character of John Rambo to life in the Rambo film series. I'm sure its been a while since you've seen these, so this week I am recommending them as a sure-fire way to help digest all the turkey and pumpkin pie you ate last week!

* "First Blood": 1982. Rated R.

In the first installment of the popular series, Stallone's character of John Rambo has to contend with harassment from a redneck cop. Consequently, Rambo's conflict brings him into the mountains of Oregon, where he battles against the ruthless antagonist and nature simultaneously.

What makes this film work so well is primarily the characterizations. There is so much complexity involved with each character that the viewer feels as though they are truly real people and not merely paper-thin characters.

Richard Crenna's portrayal of who seems to be Rambo's only friend in the film adds a nuance of sensitivity to a film that, in essence, is anything but sensitive. Brian Dennehy delivers an exquisitely evil performance as the villain, adding perfect balance not only to the cast but also to the entire plot.

"First Blood" does contain some gore, so be warned. This inclusion, however, can be easily overlooked since the film commands so much attention through the powerful performances and aforementioned characterizations. It may not be a classic, but it is a fun ride. **3 STARS.**

* "Rambo - First Blood Part II": 1985. Rated R.

"First Blood" did well enough at the box office to guarantee the arrival of this sequel. Why it wasn't called "Second Blood" is beyond me, since that would have been a more appropriate and catchy title. This time out, Rambo goes back to Vietnam to rescue American prisoners of war.

This film relies much too heavily on the same exact formula used in its predecessor and can, consequently, drag at times. The viewers' emotional involvement in the story is a direct by-product of the graphic scenes of our American prisoners being tortured by the ruthless enemy.

For all the hometown news, you turn our pages each and every week ... AAN!!!

On a positive note, we do see some actual progression from the first film in the relationship between Stallone's and returning Richard Crenna's roles. They have obviously bonded and share a friendship that adds the same nuance of sensitivity that was first exploited in the original.

Aside from that, however, this is just a sequel. There really isn't anything new that is presented here and makes the film very unoriginal. So what is left is a film that is fun to watch but doesn't really deliver anything of substance or originality. On second thought, perhaps an even better title would have been "Last Blood"! **2 STARS.**

* "Rambo III": 1988. Rated R.

Well, you knew it was bound to happen. Three years after the last film, we again meet John Rambo, who now comes across in this film as more of a Hollywood icon instead of the raw and primitive Rambo we remember from "First Blood."

The story centers around Rambo's conflict with sadistic Russians in Afghanistan. The film is very predictable for a couple of reasons. First off, we already know from the get-go that Rambo will be successful in his mission; we learned this from the first two outings. This in itself isn't bad, for many films with good sequels still have predictable endings.

The problem is that director Peter MacDonald didn't seem to take this into account because he spends a great majority of the film trying to create ambiguity in reference to the outcome of the picture. The production value of the picture, however, proves to be quite impressive. The visual effects are convincing and do generate a certain degree of excitement. The problem is that once these scenes pass, we return to the very campy occurrences that have been prevalent throughout the film.

Rambo lost something in this film. He plays as more of a comic book character than the tough-as-nails character he originally was. This is obviously due to the fact that this trilogy of films was very successful and Hollywood had to make their money-making main character larger than life when, in actuality, they should have just left him alone. Don't worry though, folks, there was never a "Rambo IV"! **1 STAR.**

* "PISANO'S PICKS" REVIEW GUIDE: 5 STARS - Extraordinary; 4 STARS - Excellent; 3 STARS - Good; 2 STARS - Average; 1 STAR - Watchable; 0 STARS - Avoid.

Ag. Garden Club To Participate In Storowton Festivities

Eastern States Exposition's Storowton Village Museum will debut a new evening program, Yuletide by Lantern Light, Wednesday, December 6th from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the historic Village on the grounds of Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield.

Attendees will have the opportunity to experience a winter evening of yesteryear and the magic of an old-fashioned holiday as they tour Storowton's cozy homes and buildings illuminated by lanterns and candlelight. The self-guided tour is \$3 per person and children under age six will be admitted free. Participants are encouraged to dress warmly.

The tour includes live 19th century demonstrations of fireplace cooking in the Gilbert Farmstead and blacksmithing in the stone Blacksmith Shop.

The Village's historic buildings have been draped in holiday splendor through the generosity of several area garden clubs, including the Agawam Garden Club, florists, and designers who have donated their time, expertise, and materials.

Each of the Village's 18th and 19th century buildings, which come from throughout New England, were dismantled and brought here for authentic reconstruction around a picturesque green. Its creation was the brainchild of Helen O. Sorrow, an area philanthropist and Exposition trustee.

The Village was completed in 1932 and is a living history museum offering tours and programs to the general public.

The Storowton Village Gift Shop in the Phillips House and the new Christmas Shop in Potter Mansion feature beautiful gifts and decorations for the holidays. Both shops will be open during the tours.

For more information on this and additional Yuletide events, call the village at (413) 787-0136 or Eastern States Exposition at (413) 737-2443.

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"The Food Dude"

by John Walters



How To "Eat Right" On A Cruise...

Did you know you can send in recipes to me at P.O. Box 741 Agawam, MA 01001?

Now is the time many of you will be going on cruises. Your travel agent has told you about how relaxing the cruise will be. They have told you about the sites. They have told you about all the buffets. They even have told you how everybody gains weight.

Well, I am going to tell you how to eat aboard ship and really enjoy it without gaining all the weight. They will start to feed you as soon as you get on board with a "welcome aboard" buffet.

Stay away from the buffets. Eat in the dining room for all of your meals. The food is better and you get served. Are you not there to be waited on and live the good life? You have to tip your waiters by the day anyway, so why not take advantage and let them wait on you. After all, who is waiting on you at home?

In the dining room, all the meals are measured; at the buffet, you just pile it on.

Ask for late seating for dinner. That way, you will finish dinner at about 10:30 p.m. You then go to the show in the theater and you're too full from dinner to eat the midnight buffet, so you will not gain all the weight. Also, make sure every morning you go for a walk around the top deck. Listen, the exercise will do you good! In the ports, walk around instead of taking a cab everywhere.

The food is really good on board the ships. The chefs will recommend a complete dinner each night for you. Listen to them; they know how to pair the foods together. Try something you're not used to; if you don't like it, they will bring you a new meal. It's part of the adventure!

The only meals that I found wanting were pasta dishes. I ran right to Sorrento Pizza in West Springfield when I got back to satisfy my pasta cravings. Nick Albano is an awesome cook and I know you will like his food.

NEW STUFF COMING UP: My radio show is moving. I will be on WMAS-AM 1450 very soon. Look for a big announcement when I am sure of the date and times. Check out my web sites on your computers: www.foodduderadio.com, www.springfieldsouthend.com, and my newest, www.johnwalterswebcities.com.

Remember, it's not what you're eating, it's with whom your dining. I'll have more for you next week.

Spfld. Symphony To Host Holiday Pops Concert

The Springfield Symphony Orchestra and Chorus will deck the Hall with boughs of holly and bows of instruments as they present their traditional Holiday Pops concerts on Saturday, December 9th at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 10th at 3:00 p.m. WGGB-TV NEWS 40 anchors Beth Carroll and Dave Madsen will emcee the Holiday Pops; Ms. Carroll will be on hand Saturday evening and Mr. Madsen on Sunday.

Resident Conductor Lipsitt has programmed a concert filled with old favorites and new selections. The orchestra, choruses, and audience will conclude the concert with an old-fashioned sing-a-long, attended by a special visitor in a red and white suit!

The Springfield Symphony Orchestra and Chorus will be led by Resident Conductor Steven Lipsitt, who begins his fourth season as Chorus Director. In addition to his Springfield responsibilities, he serves as Music Director for the Boston Classical Orchestra and is a frequent guest conductor in the United States and abroad. Lipsitt is an active opera conductor and a devoted trainer of young musicians.

The Saturday event is sponsored by Fleet; the Sunday afternoon concert, by American Saw & Mfg. Co. WGGB/NEWS40 is media sponsor for both events. New and unwrapped toys for Head Start organizations throughout the Pioneer Valley will be accepted in the lobby during each concert.

Tickets are available from the Springfield Symphony box office, 75 Market Place, downtown Springfield, or can be charged by phone (VISA, MasterCard, Discover) by calling 413-733-2291. Tickets range from \$9 to \$39 and are half-price for youths age four to 17. A 25% discount is available for groups of 10 or more.

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Majestics & Divas In Concert At Majestic Theater

The Theatre Project will present The Majestics and The Majestic Divas in concert December 14th-16th at the Majestic Theater in West Springfield. The Majestics, the "house band" of the theater, will take the stage on Thursday, December 14th at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, December 16th at 8:00 p.m. In between the two evenings, on Friday, December 15th at 8:00 p.m., The Majestic Divas will entertain.

Several members of The Majestics are actors and musicians from *The Buddy Holly Story*, which was the first production at the recently restored Majestic Theater in March of 1997. The group's close friendship and musical capabilities led them to continue on as a performing band that specializes in late 1950s and early 1960s rock and roll classics. The Majestics have played at several area events, including WestSide's Taste on the Common, The Big E, The Taste of Westfield, and several regional fairs and private functions.

Tickets for these performances are \$10 and \$12 and can be obtained by contacting the Majestic Theater box office at (413) 747-7797. Walk-in box office hours are Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 2:00-5:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 4:00-8:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Music For Infants & Toddlers At Agawam Library

On Monday, December 11th, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., the Agawam Library will present "Music Together for Valley Families" with Debbie Weyl.

This is an interactive music and movement program for infants and toddlers (birth through age two) and their parents. Singing, dancing, and instruments are all part of the fun!

The program will be held at St. David's Episcopal Church at 699 Springfield St. in Feeding Hills (next to the Agawam Police Station). It is open to the public and space is limited, so please sign up early.

Please visit the library or call 789-1550 to register.



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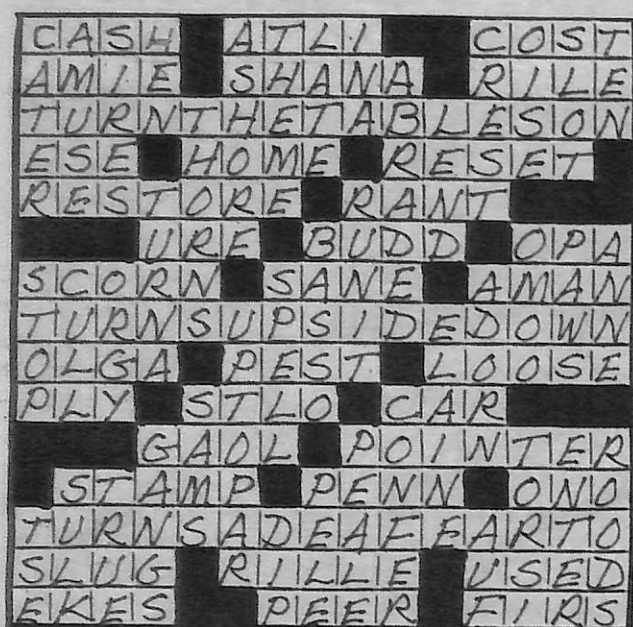
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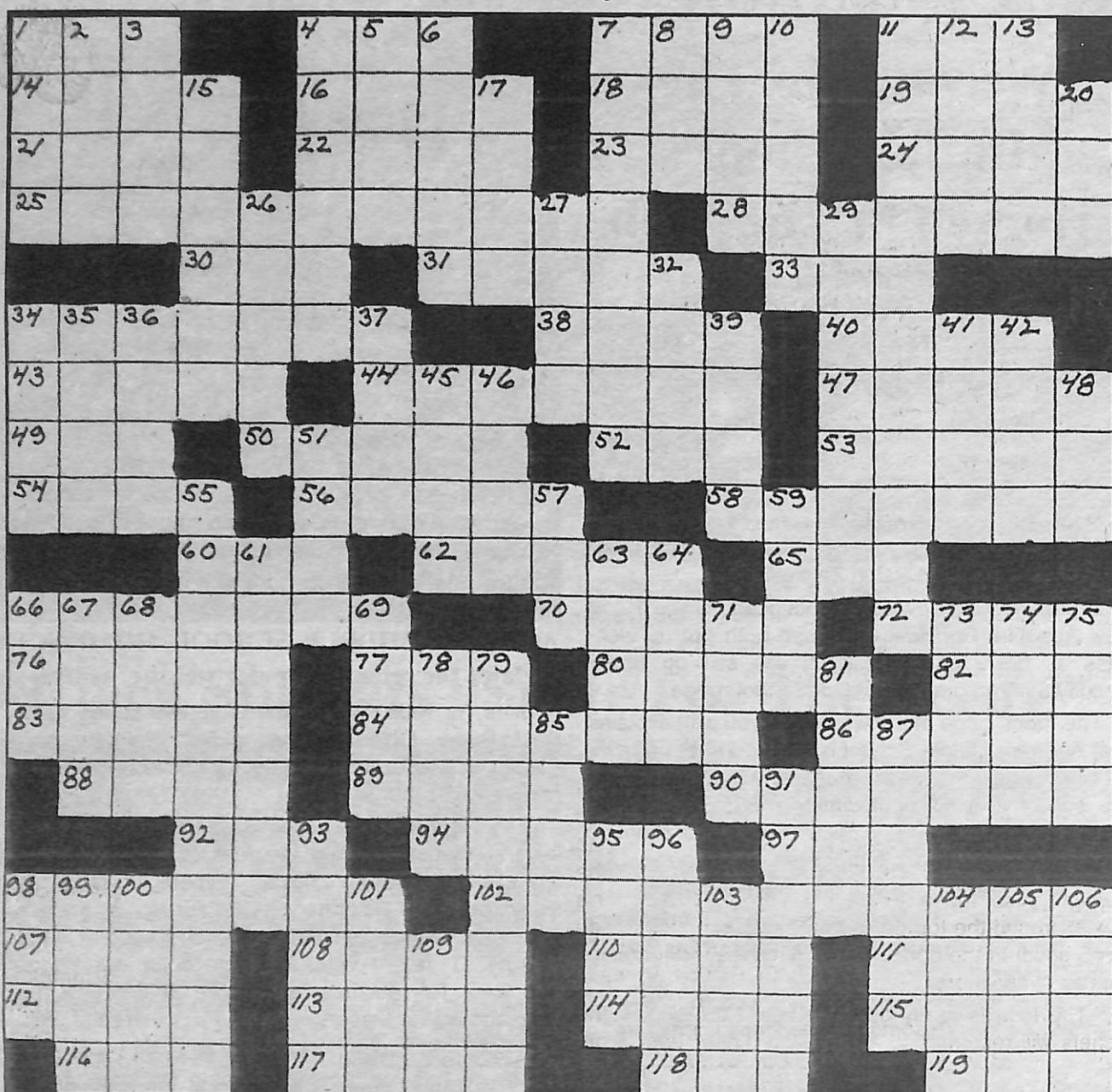
ACROSS

1 Confederate General Stuart
4 M.I.T. workplace
7 Klinger portrayer
11 Numbers man
14 Son of Shem
16 God of war
18 Mayberry lad
19 Musical Alpert
21 Market type
22 Role
23 Storm
24 Buck follower
25 Tom Hanks Oscar winner
28 Loving to a fault
30 _ got a secret
31 Scoff
33 _ vous plait
34 Onery one's trait
38 Sweetsop
40 V.I.P.'s ride
43 Aisle ender for a bride
44 Vie
47 Tick off
49 Matched pair
50 Person of rank in Scotland
52 Female saint
53 Musical group
54 Keep this above water
56 Revival tent shouts
58 Babies in a way
60 Feedbag filler
62 Chars

DOWN

65 Dos Passos classic
66 User of SRO
70 Grows white
72 Bosnia faction
76 Polo who explored
77 Went ahead of the pack
80 _ the pity
82 Moving truck
83 "Knight in shining
84 Lady _ (flower)
86 Banal
88 French papa
89 Cape fox
90 Radar trap target
92 Brown of musical renown
94 Loosens up
97 Room in the cellar usually
98 Gets rid of
102 Carlo Ponti's lady
107 Toast topper
108 Repose
110 Sunrise direction
111 Midway attraction
112 Sea bird
113 Funnyman
Johnson of "Laugh-In"
114 She in Paree
115 "The _ of War"
116 Female of the forest
117 Leap _
118 Danson of "Cheers"
119 Hanoi holiday

Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



DOWN

1 Mutt's comic strip partner
2 Cockney's greeting
3 1935 loser to Braddock
4 Momentary slips
5 I smell _
6 N. Atlantic floaters
7 _ sake
8 Brazilian tree
9 Latvian city
10 Swamp growth
11 Honolulu sleuth of fiction
12 Persian sprite
13 Elvis' middle name

15 Mooring spot
17 Surprise in a way
20 Fen
26 Turn inside out
27 Potatoes' partner
29 Smudge makers
32 Take it easy
34 "Hawkeye's" unit
35 1 A's commander
36 " _ boy!!"
37 Crooked ploy
39 A rose has a long one
41 Dole out
42 Atop
45 Singletons
46 Hawaiian goose
48 U.F.O. fliers

51 Despise
55 The "Godfather"
57 Enervate
59 Yorkshire river
61 Actress Renee et al
63 Highway exit
64 _ gin fizz
66 Small in Dundee
67 Diamond cover
68 Army (Fr.)
69 Hostess Maxwell
71 Bobbles the ball
73 Eager
74 London art gallery
75 Lulu
78 Or _
79 Calamity
81 Man of _

(Superman)
85 Mexican money
87 Tape
91 Nonsense talk
93 Wander
95 Dueler's sword
96 "Thou _ not..."
98 Matrix unit
99 _ three lives
100 Florida's " _ Beach"
101 Dry as a bone
103 _ of Capri
104 Big fuss
105 Trim
106 Cozy spot
109 Depot

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Education

We come To The Middle School's Home On The Web

by Kathy Shepard
Feature Editor

"A good website is never done," Richard Cowles, the Agawam Middle School Adjustment Counselor, told us.

"Creating a site is one thing; maintaining and keeping it current is another thing altogether," Cowles noted.

Space has been available to school principals here since 1998, so the Middle School site is technically allocated to Principal Ralph Zavarella.

But both Dick Cowles (pronounced "Coles") and new Assistant Principal Lou Spiro both put up websites in 1997, each of which are still up under Faculty/Staff on the "About Our School" page.

The "front" page of the website (if you will) explains that Agawam Middle School is "located in the beautiful city of Agawam, Massachusetts. It is a public middle school serving approximately 685 students in grades five and six. This is our first website and needs to be viewed as a 'work in progress'." We hope you will bookmark it and come back often," said Cowles.

There are six hyperlinks from this introductory page, including "About our School", "About Our Town", "Local Interest", "Sites for Kids", "Sites for Parents," and "Sites for Teachers." The web address is <http://www.angelfire.com/ma/agawamms/index.html>

If a visitor to the website clicks on "About our School", they will come to several choices including "Newsletter", "Lunch Menu", "Grade 5 Honor Roll", "Grade 6 Honor Roll", "Faculty/Staff", "Promotion Policy", "Agawam Public Schools", and "Mass. Dept. of Education".

Or, the visitor can go "Home" and return to the original page. An option to Email the site also is available at zavarell@massed.net. The Newsletter and Lunch Menu need updating on a regular basis and there are some changes to the local interest link at times as well.

According to Cowles, "Today, most schools do have websites but in 1997-1998 we were probably at the beginning of it. I got a computer for my own kids and the original setup of the website was done from my home computer. A big part of my work as School Adjustment counselor is communications between home, school, community agencies, and other resources.

"Technology can really help a lot," added Cowles. "I can communicate with parents and students by email. Overall, it's a good system but balance does need to be maintained. The computer is also an invaluable research tool."

Just one example is a collection of links to web resources that can be helpful with homework projects called the Agawam Middle School Study Buddy. Taken from PTO Notes in the Newsletter, the news item says, "point your browser to <http://www.angelfire.com/ma/agawamms/studybuddy.html>

The website expands into comprehensive hyperlinks, including the Town of Agawam page: "The Town of Agawam welcomes you....The Town of Agawam is a place of tradition and of opportunity. A convenient location, affordable land and buildings, and a low tax rate allow residents to build good lives and attract those who wish to buy a home or start a business. The highway system and nearby airport link Agawam to the surrounding region's many opportunities...."

From this page, one can email the Town Hall or link to several other specific departments, such as Town Staff, Public Safety, Life and Leisure, Government, Town History, Employment Opportunities, and many others.

Another page leads to an abundance of Local Interest options, such as the Springfield Museum, Storowton Village, Six Flags, the Volleyball Hall of Fame, and many other interesting places.



AGAWAM MIDDLE SCHOOL HOME/SCHOOL Adjustment Counselor Richard Cowles updates the school's popular website. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Sites for Kids links to the afore-mentioned AMS Study Buddy, Discovery Channel School, Information Please, A Magazine for Middle Schoolers, Funbrain, and several other selections.

A visit to the Middle School Study Buddy might take several hours, or even many days, to simply explore, offering up a dozen choices (hyperlinks) such as Encyclopedia, Dictionary, Thesaurus, a French Dictionary, a Spanish Dictionary, and several other choices. There are pages with sites for parents, pages with sites for teachers, and entire directory of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health with important phone numbers as well as addresses.

Cowles has had some rewarding feedback about the website. "I hear from parents who like the site and the hyperlinks provided, especially for study. Where we provide resources which are under copyright, I send an E-mail message asking permission to use their material. This is a courtesy, not a law, but it is a good policy and I prefer to do things that way."

Cowles appreciates the computer in many other ways besides the website.

"Kids E-mail me when they want to see me because a problem has come up and they need to talk. I can contact parents or vice versa by E-mail and we can avoid phone tag. Last year I had a student who needed to be picked up because the youngster

was sick and needed to go home. To find the parents, I searched for a screen name and found the student's mother 'on line'. I sent her an 'instant message' and was able to let her know that her son needed a ride."

Cowles welcomes the Internet as an option for arranging appointments. Giving an E-mail address out carries fewer complications than giving out one's home phone number. There are seven or eight School Adjustment Counselors in the Agawam School System (one for each school).

"We do case work with kids who have issues and are experiencing difficulty in school. Whenever something interferes with a child's getting the most out of school, we work with that student," Cowles explained.

"We are a link between school, the family, and in some cases, outside resources. Our responsibilities might be with disabled students or someone experiencing grief from a death of a family member or perhaps repercussions from a divorce.

"Some kids are coping with a parent who has a substance abuse problem, and once in a while we see children grappling with tobacco or even drug experimentation. The computer has become another tool for us to use in accessing resources which can make a difference to the students who need our help."

Cowles can be reached by telephone at 789-1400, ext. 491 or at cowles@massed.net.

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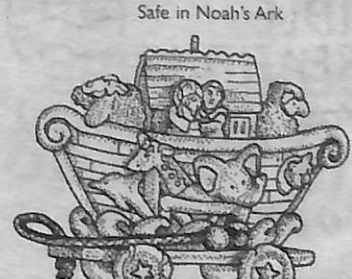
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"You And Me Puppets" Perform At Smart Start Preschool

Recently, the "You And Me Puppets" performed at Smart Start Preschool in Feeding Hills.

International puppeteer and Agawam native Judith O'Hare presented an original play titled *Jessica's Friends*. This wonderful story of friendship was highlighted with opportunities for many children to participate as puppeteers.

The children were mesmerized as they saw the puppets come to life and taught them to sing "You Gotta Be A Friend." The play featured a classic bedtime scene and a dream sequence in which the children performed "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" and the six colors of the rainbow with dancing marionettes.

O'Hare is currently teaching and performing in Hong Kong. She is a nationally recognized teacher, performer, and consultant in the performing arts, specializing in participatory theater for children through grade seven.



THE YOU AND ME PUPPETS recently appeared at the Smart Start Preschool in Feeding Hills to perform the play "Jessica's Friends" for the youngsters.

Jennifer Stratton Named To UMass Honor Society

Jennifer J. Stratton, daughter of Sharon and Fred Stratton of Silver Street in Agawam, has been inducted into the Golden Key National Honor Society at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Golden Key is a national academic honor society formed to recognize and encourage outstanding scholastic achievement in all fields of study. Membership is by invitation to juniors and seniors who have maintained at least a 3.5 cumulative average on a four-point scale.

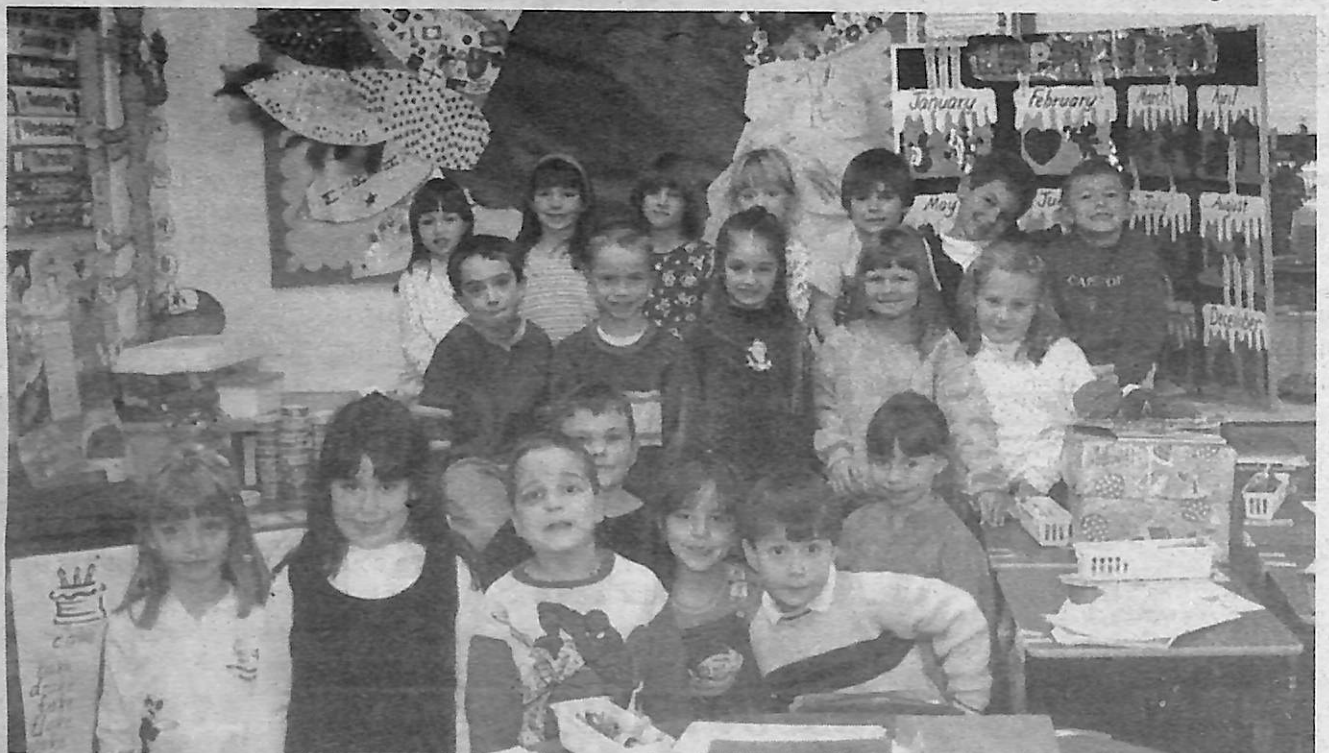
Stratton is a member of the Class of 2001 majoring in nursing at the University. She graduated from Agawam High School in 1997.

Pack 75 To Host Fundraiser

Cub Scout Pack 75 will be hosting a holiday and merchandise fundraising sale to benefit the Pack.

The sale will be held Friday, December 1st at the Sacred Heart Parish Center in Feeding Hills from 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Clark Students "Share For The Needy"



TRADITIONALLY EACH YEAR, the first-graders in the class of Clark School teacher Joyce Rheume decorate a "featherless turkey" by making feathers to represent their families. The students also presented a sharing basket to the needy Clark School family. The goods were donated by the family of each student in the classroom. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

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Agawam High School's Calendar Of December Events

FUNDRAISERS FOR DECEMBER:

- * Senior Class Supermarket Voucher Fundraiser.
- * Band/Color Guard Entertainment Book Sale.
- * 2001 Prom Committee Taffy Fundraiser (3 pkgs. for \$1.00).
- * Sophomore Class Half Time Shots at Basketball Games (\$1.00 per shot).
- * Last Minute Senior Salutes for the 2001 Yearbook.

Dec. 1st-22nd: LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THE SEASON: Spanish classes: pinatas, cards; French classes: Buche de Noel, Les Santons, cards; Italian classes: cards.

Dec. 3rd: MATH TEAM to compete at Cathedral High School (leaving AHS at 2:30 p.m.).

Dec. 4th: HOLIDAY PARTY FOR TEACHERS sponsored by Renaissance, cafeteria, 2:00 p.m.; BAND PARENTS meeting 7:00 p.m.; PHILOSOPHY CLUB meeting, room 28, 2:00 p.m.

Dec. 5th: BREAKFAST AT AHS sponsored by the senior class, 6:50 - 7:15 a.m.; FAMILY RESOURCE TUESDAY GROUP meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program, center office conference room, period 6; BAND & CHORUS performance at Heritage Hall, 3:00 p.m.

Dec. 6th: PEER LEADERSHIP meeting to organize and prepare for the CHAIN OF LIFE, room 44, 2:00 p.m.; WOMEN'S ISSUES DISCUSSION GROUP meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program, center office conference room, period 4.

Dec. 7th: BREAKFAST AT AHS sponsored by the sophomore class, 6:50 - 7:15 a.m.; WINTER BACK-TO-SPORTS NIGHT, cafeteria, 7:00 p.m.; MODEL

CONGRESS meeting, room 29, 2:00 p.m.

Dec. 8th: FRIDAY DISCUSSION GROUP meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program, center office conference room, period 2; SPORTS MEDIA DAY, gymnasium, 2:00 p.m.; BAND & CHORUS performance for the Chamber of Commerce Breakfast.

Dec. 12th: BREAKFAST AT AHS sponsored by the senior class, 6:50 - 7:15 a.m.; FAMILY RESOURCE TUESDAY GROUP meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program, center office conference room, period 7; FINANCIAL AID NIGHT, cafeteria, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. sponsored by the Guidance Department.

Dec. 13th: WOMEN'S ISSUES DISCUSSION GROUP meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program, center office conference room, period 6; PEER LEADERSHIP meeting to prepare and distribute THE CHAIN OF LIFE, room 44, 2:00 p.m.; INTERGENERATIONAL POETRY GROUP meeting, room 38, 1:50-2:35 p.m.; BAND & CHORUS WINTER CONCERT 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 14th: BREAKFAST AT AHS sponsored by the sophomore class, 6:50 - 7:15 a.m.; MODEL CONGRESS meeting, room 29, 2:00 p.m.

Dec. 14th-20th: "TOY FOR JOY" collection sponsored by the National Honor Society.

Dec. 15th: PEER LEADERSHIP meeting to construct the CHAIN OF LIFE, cafeteria, 2:00 p.m.; FRIDAY DISCUSSION GROUP meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program, center office conference room, period 3.

Dec. 18th: RENAISSANCE GOLD/GOLD PLUS CARD distribution; PHILOSOPHY CLUB meeting,

room 28, 2:00 p.m.

Dec. 19th: BREAKFAST AT AHS sponsored by the senior class, 6:50 - 7:15 a.m.; FAMILY RESOURCE TUESDAY GROUP meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program, center office conference room, period 2.

Dec. 19th-20th: Child Development Classes, HOLIDAY CELEBRATION sponsored by the Health Ed Department.

Dec. 20th: WOMEN'S ISSUES WEDNESDAY GROUP meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program, center office conference room, period 2; PEER LEADERSHIP holiday party, room 44, 2:00 p.m.; SUPERINTENDENT'S STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE meeting, principal's conference room, 2:00 p.m.

Dec. 21st: BREAKFAST AT AHS sponsored by the sophomore class, 6:50 - 7:15 a.m.; BACK-TO-SCHOOL DAY sponsored by the Guidance Department - college students to speak to junior and senior English classes about their college experiences; NATIONAL THEATER PRESENTS "Diary of Anne Frank" auditorium, 10:15 a.m.; MODEL CONGRESS meeting, room 29, 2:00 p.m.; SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL meeting, teachers' cafeteria, 6:00 p.m.

Dec. 22nd: RENAISSANCE HOLIDAY BREAKFAST PARTY, cafeteria, period 1 (for students that received a gold/gold plus card for the first marking term); FRIDAY DISCUSSION GROUP meeting sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program, center office conference room, period 4.

Dec. 28th: SENIOR SEMI-FORMAL, Chez Josef, 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.



Agawam Little League Baseball Sign-Up

December 2, 2000

**Italian Sporting Club, Cooper Street
10:00 A.M. - 2P.M.**

The Agawam Little League will be holding its first sign-up for the year 2001 baseball season

The following programs will be run in the spring:

Instructional & Teeball (ages 5-7)

Minors (ages 8-10) * Majors (ages 10-12)

Registration Fees: \$40/Child or \$100/Family of 3 or more

In addition to the registration, each player will receive a \$10 book of raffle tickets which will be prepaid at time of registration.

**Sign-ups will also be held for
umpires for the year 2001 season**

**Anyone with uniforms and/or equipment
is asked to bring them to the sign-up.**

*The Agawam Little League is proud to
serve the youth of our community.*

**If there are any questions, please contact
Ted Kopyscinski at 821-7989**



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Shooting Star Dance Center Celebrates Halloween



SHOOTING STAR DANCE CENTER was only open for two classes on Halloween so that students could enjoy their evening. Staff members and students, who did attend class that day, dressed up for class before heading off to go trick-or-treating. IN LEFT PHOTO (from left to right) - staff member Heather Fortier, Kayleen Welch, Jordyn Conway, Alexandra Beavis, and Delaney Lussier. IN RIGHT PHOTO (from left to right) - Kaitlynn McLaughlin, Lisa Garrity, Ashley Jediny, staff member Heather Fortier, Jamie Corriveau, and Lisa Bobskill.

Open House Scheduled At Western New England College

Western New England College will host high school seniors and their parents at an open house on Sunday, December 3rd from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The event is free, but reservations must be made by calling 1-800-325-1122, ext. 1312 or 413-782-1312.

During the Open House, students and their parents will have an opportunity to learn about residence life and obtain information about financial aid. They will meet with faculty to review academic interests and to learn how majors can be converted to careers. They'll also attend a panel presentation for a candid and unrehearsed review of what it is like to be a first-year student at Western New England College.

A record number of students attended the first three open houses this fall. Nearly 800 students attended an earlier Western New England Open House session on October 15th, making it the second largest turnout in the College's history. "When it comes to the college search process, the campus visit is the most important component," said Theodore Zern, Dean of Freshman and Transfer Students. "The students in attendance took an important step in solidifying their future."

Western New England College offers students a special learning environment through its Learning Beyond the Classroom program, which places

emphasis on learning which can and does take place in experiential activities. The program includes internships, leadership experiences, and community service.

Students may have "real world" experiences that tie into classroom learning, such as the Mason Square Project, where students survey local businesses from a Springfield neighborhood.

Nearly 3,700 students submitted an application for entrance to Western New England College in the fall of 1999, the highest number in the College's history.



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Agawam High School HONOR ROLL

GRADE 12

Rebekah Adams, Isidro Aguinaga, Anthony Albro, Bryan Allard, Christina Anderson, Laura Babbini, Danielle Bachini, Pamela Beane, Alla Belyshev, Lisa Bienia, Marjorie Bilodeau, Tiffany Blackman, Michelle Blanchard, Amanda Boissonneault, Daniel Boissonneault, Gregory Boisvert, Anthony Bosini, Nicholas Brown, Michael Brunelle, Laura Bucalo, Corinne Butova, William Campana.

Gina Castellanos, Lisa Castonguay, Bianca Chase, Laurie Chmielewski, Timothy Chretien, Elizabeth Clark, Keegan Clark, Jessica Coelho, Caitlyn Conte, Louis Conte, Shannon Costa, Stephanie Cox, Heather Crescentini, Lauren Deluca, Nicole Dominick, Erika Dowd, Peter Drewniak, Adam Ellsworth, Corey Ferrentino, Michael Federico, Tara Feeley, Frank Ferrentino, Scott Fleming, Jessica Forni, Jill Gendron, Gina Goralczyk, Sara Gregory, Ashley Guie, Stephanie Gumlaw, Ryan Hanley, Eric Hogan.

Shannon Holbrook, James Ingari, Amy Jensen, Lindsey Jeserski, Janet Jock, Lauren Kida, Michael Kirk, Maxim Kizilov, Stephanie Knodler, David Kowalewski, Joseph Lancour, Rachel Lara, Bryan Lavin, Laura Laviolette, Racha Lazkani, Adam Lee, Ryan Lepard, Jennifer Leupo, Anthony Liquori, Jana Lohmann, Megan Loomis, Jeremiah Maloni, Elizabeth Maynard, Joseph Maynard, Kelly McNeish, Amanda Menard.

Jennifer Mercadante, Steven Messina, Jessica Moffatt, Erica Molbury, Amanda Moquin, Rachel Morris, Mary-Beth Morrissey, Adam Mounemneh, Rebecca Nacewicz, Ellen Nasiatka, Urszula Nowik, Kaitlin O'Brien, Melissa Orr, Jennifer Pease, Aimee Piccin, Jennifer Pietroniro, Stephen Pilegi, Jennifer Plamondon, Timothy Ranstrom, Travis Reed, Tara Reilly, Amy Richards, Jonathan Roberts, Jenny Rohan.

Jamie Santos, Vilayphong Senthap, Pamela Sherry, Danielle Sienkiewicz, Sarah Sorensen, Adam Sprague, Julie Sterling, Elizabeth Stieg, Joanna Surowiec, Michael Thomas, Bianca Torres, Michelle Udezue, Jessica Viecegli, James Wisniewski, Robert Zajac.

GRADE 11

Kristin Berry, Amanda Blair, Eric Bland, Thomas Boisjolie, Nikolay Bondarenko, Jamie Borkosky,

Michael Bousquet, Amanda Brown, Emilia Calabrese, Kelly Cassidy, Kimberly Chmura, Erin Corbin, Matthew Couture, Adam D'Amaro, Jenna Davis, Danya Decoteau, Kathleen Demetron, Eliza Dickmann, Caira Dominguez, Kara Dominick, Scott Drenzek.

Katie Dubay, Matthew Duplessis, Ronald Dutton, Vitaly Dzhenzherukha, Kathryn Feato, Anna Ferrentino, Bryan Ghedi, Kara Gilhooly, Erinn Gloster, Alyssa Goodrow, Elizabeth Gottardi, Kristin Grant, Eric Hastings.

Stacy Hopkins, Christine Jack, Craig Jendza, Jennifer Jutte, Michael Kelly, Brian Knight, Joseph Kocot, Raymond Kupras, Kimberly Landry, Lori-Ann LaPierre, Jillian Lawson, Jacqueline LeGrand, Marlen Lepik, Joshua Lewin, Sarah Leydon, Matthew Ligenza, Anna Liquori, Katie Ludwig, Kristin Mantolesky, Denis Marchetto, Desiree Marsili, Daniel Messier.

Brian Michel, Kristina Midura, Adrian Misiak, Stephen Nascimbeni, Alyson Nowell, Courtney Nowill, Jennifer Orenstein, Shannon Phillips.

Matthew Picard, Jillian Roberts, April Rondeau, Jessica Roy, Julie Ruiz, Christopher Seymour, Jenna Shea, Jonathan Sikes, Maureen Skehan, Kevin Sliech, Adam Tapply, Marc Tully, Steven Turner, Anthony Valenti, Danielle Welner, Krista Wheeler, Ryan Witherell, Lucy Young.

GRADE 10

Kevin Athas, Steven Atkinson, Michael Bachini, Kevin Baptiste, Catherine Baum, Aimee Beaudette, Rebecca Berta, David Bienia, Ashley Blanchard, Stacy Boisjolie, Brien Bonneville, Laura Bovat, Lindsay Carey, Alexis Chretien, Christin Cilimberg, Richard Cilimberg, Danielle Cirillo, Peter Clark, David Cowan.

Heather Cox, Gregory Curtis, Lieghanna Daigneau, Jenine Davignon, Christopher Davis, Paul Delton, Kelly Doyle, Daniel Drewniak, Suzanne Dudley, Chad Farrington, Kevin Fleming, Daniel Gomes, Angilika Govor, Andrea Greaney, Erica Gregoire, Kaitlyn Haglund, Ian Hamlett, William Hamre, Eric Harris, Christopher Holl, Scott Howes, Cristina Ieraci, Linda Kelley, Nathan Krach, Nicholas Krolicki, Paul Lagasse, Michael Lalli, Patrick Landers, Rahada Lazkani, Justin Lepard, Jaimi Liard, Michael Locke,

Daveen Macsata, Dmitriy Makarov, Jeremy Malanson, Ashley Marek, Christopher Martin, Vincent Martucci, Amanda Maynard.

Sara McCurda, Megan Mercadante, Kerri Merriam, Nina Murray, Ashley Mutti, Arthur Nowik, Corey O'Connor, Jodie Pfau, Julie Pontz, Phillip Preston, Kelly Reilly, Myungsuk Ro, David Rosenberg, Victoria Ruhl, Alfonso Santaniello, Jennifer Sharpe, Alexandra Simmons, Natalya Skovorodina, Brian Sojkowski, Christina Sticco.

Benjamin Sunny, Victoria Taylor, Brittany Theriaque, Ryan Trexler, Nicole Vadnais, Sebastian Verelst, Cori Verteramo, Louis ViVenzio, Kristopher Widmer, Cylyn Williams, Tara Witte, Suet Yong, Ryan Zaczynski, Laura Zerra.

GRADE 9

Alexander Alvanos, Brian Athas, Michael Audette, Kelly Borkosky, Danielle Borsari, Kevin Bosini, Jason Briotta, Tami Burmeister, Randal Carlton, Lianne Castellanos, Elizabeth Couture, Aaron D'Amaro, Michael Davis, Jennifer Depelteau, Christine Dettman, Neil Donah, Sara Dorans, Meghan Ennis, Casey Federico, Michelle Figella, Malerie Gardner.

Gary Garfield, Erinn Gormley, Anthony Grasseti, Nicholas Gumlaw, Amanda Hamel, Lindsay Harnois, Matthew Hartmann, Matthew Hayden, Lauren Heiden, Kyle Henry, Sarah Hersey, Kendall Hill, Kevin Hsu, Sarah Huffman, Jenna Insero, Amanda Janik, Laura Jutte, Meghan Kelly, Daniel Korney, Sarah Landry.

Elizabeth Leon, Rebecca Leupo, William Loong, Elizabeth Loughman, Amy Lownds, Dina Lukina, Nicholas Lyman, Michael Lynch, Tory Lyons, Ashley Macey, Joseph MacFadzen, Alicia Malloy, Katie Malloy, Marc Maloney, Anthony Manzi, Christina Metcalf, Pavlina Moysis, Elizabeth Mundo, Lyudmila Nikolaychuk, Katherine O'Connell, Courtne Ober, Kevin Olbrych, Andrew Oleksak, Jennifer Panek, Amber Paro, Amy Proulx.

Daniel Quigley, Brenton Reveruzzi, Francesco Roda, Adam Roy, Brian Santos, Anthony Sapelli, Bethany Schivley, Patricia Sheehan, Roger Sircar, Megan Smith, Kristen Sopet, Holly Stano, Kyle Sullivan, Ryan Sullivan, Paul Surowiec, Emily Sussman, Brittany Taylor, Alissa Tully, Jessica Tully, Eva Udobina, Drew Von Maluski, Michael Weinle, Christopher Werther, Annemarie Zaffetti, Mary Zajac.

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Agawam Middle School HONOR ROLL

GRADE 6

Thomas Albano, Christopher Alvanos, Michael Andrews, Cassandra Ashwell, Elizabeth Avondo, Joel Bailey, Rachel Baptiste, Joshua Barrows, Marissa Bazanchuk, Darryl Beane, Ryan Belisle, Christina Bertrand, Brian Boglish, Alyssa Bonavita, Andrea Braccialarghe, Caitlin Breault, Ashley Brinkmann, Glenna Brooks, Kayla Bryant, Seth Carrier.

Daniel Cassidy, Jr., Lauren Chartier, Daniel Comee, Briana Conchieri, Katherine Cooper, Anthony Costa, Lisa Couture, Cassandra Daniels, Nicholas Dassatti, Caitlyn Davis, Andrew Dawson, Adam deLiefde, Daniel Demers, Zachary Demers, Anthony DePalma, Joshua Dion, Rachel Dionne, John Dominick, Steven Donah, Leah Drownowski.

Kida Ejese, Stephen Ferrigno, Brian Foley, Linda Fortunato, Zan Frederick.

Samantha Fruwirth, Christopher Ghidoni, Paul Glantz, Kayleigh Goldrup, Laura Gomes, Thomas Goodrow, Nicholas Goss, Michael Hajdamowicz, Karyn Heaton, Emma Hendry, Nathan Higgins, Joshua Hoffman, Randolph Holmes, Eric Holt, Natalie Honsinger, Christopher Howe, Caitlin Hurley, Katelyn Iacolo, Frederick Jeserski, Bradley Johnson.

Justine Kedzior, Carly Keeley, Tiffany Knox, Jessica Kodess, Nicole Kozikowski, Stephan Krach, Theresa Krach, Megan Lalli, Gregory Lane, Jonathan Lapins, Joseph Lepianka, Rebeca Lewin, Samantha Lisee, Kathryn Lynch, Laura Lyons, Kelly MacIntyre, Michelle Maczka, Ashley Martin, Jocelyn Mason, Danielle Maynard.

Brian Merriam, Brittany Michel, Phillip Mokrzycki, Adam Moore, Erica Morris, Jeffrey Nation, Molly Nowill, Daniel O'Connell, Amelia O'Hare, Sarah

O'Neill, Katelyn Olson, Kaitlin Outhuse, Julie Parisien, Lindsey Pfau, Nicholas Pioggia, Timothy Piquette, Adam Plante, Kelly Poirier, Kurt Ripke, Myungsun Ro, Matthew Roberts, Sarah Roos, Rebecca Rosenberg.

Danielle Russo, Brianne Sacco, Nicholas Savard, Joseph Scafuri, Meaghan Serra, Alfredo Settembre, Zachary Smith, Lauren Sotolotto, Cory St. Germain, Brendon Struck, Amanda Therrien, Kathleen Thibodeau, Caitlyn Tierney, Victoria Tran, Paul Trimboli III, Shaun Troy, Lisa Truschelli, Tara Walker, Kelly Williamson, Megan Wills, Ashley-Anne Wolos, Kelsey Wood, Michael Yo, Erin Zaczynski.

GRADE 5

Nicholas Abraham, Krystina Albano, Emily Baker, Christina Barbarisi, Jessica Beroth, Christine Blanchard, Joshua Blood, Carisa Bobskill, Kimberly Bock, Phillip Boglish, Yurly Bondarenko, Megan Boylan, Khristina Brodowski, Eric Cancelliere, Kristen Cardaropoli, Ashley Carmel, Mackenzie Cassidy, Bruce Chelkonas, Shannon Colby.

Joseph Colitti, Rebecca Colson, Cortnee Conlin, Randy Corriveau, Brian Costello, Michael Cotto, Derek D'Amours, Laura D'Angelo, Christine Davignon, Andrew Dean, Nicole Desimone, James Devoe, Alyssa Dominguez, Sergey Domnenko, Blake Dutilly, Jennifer Farmer, Danielle Fife, Katherine Figella, Katey Garrett, Adam Gay, Theresa Glod.

Adam Gonyeau, Mikayla Gonzalez-Brauer, Julie Gorman, Anna Govor, Erica Graves, Joseph Grimaldi, Artem Grushetskly, Sara Haapanen, Paige Harboy, Beth Hayden, Colin Hensel, Lisa Hersey, Stephen Hodge, Matthew Howe, Shaunna Howe, Lindsay Jacks, Felicia Johnson, Caitlin Kelley, Maxwell Kibbe, Elizabeth Koenig, Christina Korney, Jan Kuczarski, Artur Kulmizev, Nicholas Kupiec, Matthew LaBelle,

Chelsea Lafontaine, Emily Laliberte.

Eric Lane, Kristina Langone, Matthew Lapins, Joseph Largay, Houssam Lazkani, Amanda Lemelin, Frank Liberti, Stephen Liptak, Meghan Little, Brett Lombardini, Samantha Lough, Sara Lovotti, Scott Luginbuhl, Corey Lynch, Matthew MacFadden, James Mackin, Stephen Mallory, Amy Mantha, Kayla Manzi, Jessica Marceno, Meghan Masciadrelli, Daniel Matroni.

Elizabeth Mattarazzo, Katherine McGeoghan, Justin McDonald, Patrick McKeever, Angela Mercier, Nicholas Midura, Brandon Mitchell, Julie-Ayn Montalvo, Corey Moquin, Anthony Morassi, Sean Moriarty, Ryan Morrie, Noelle Myers, Joel Nawscon, Kaitlin Neilsen, Allison O'Brien, Matthew O'Brien, Kaitlyn O'Connell.

Kendrick O'Connor, Amanda Olmo, Ryan Osborne, Autumn Paro, Jessica Peck, Ashley Pelletier, Rachael Perez, Megan Pietroniro, Rachel Pokorny, Daniel Polaski, Karl Psholka, Scott Reardon, Travis Ritter, Carla Rosati, Kayla Ruhl, Tajh Russell, Ashley Sadowski, Jessica Saimer, Lucia Santaniello, Brenton Schivley, Nimish Shah, Samantha Shay.

Margaret Sheehan, Andrea Simmons, Jeffery Simpson, Nicholas Sliech, Amber Smith, Evan Spear, Danielle Stelma, Anthony Stork, Lindsay Strole, Vincenzo Suffriti, Heather Thompson, Justin Timmons, Joshua Tower, Tyler Toyfair, Sapa Truong, Karissa Venne, Paul Vermette, Daniel Vershon.

William Vinesett, Andrea Walsh, Daniel Walsh, Sean Walsh, Stephen Walsh, Christopher Walters, Anthony Watt, Ashley Williams, Mark Wingard, Sean Yarymowicz, Samuel Zhu, Andrew Zhupikov, Alexander Zmaczynski, Eleni Zouridakis.

Area Students On Honor Roll At St. Thomas

Sr. Lillian Reilly, Principal of St. Thomas the Apostle School in West Springfield, has announced that the following Agawam and Feeding Hills pupils have achieved the first-quarter honor roll at the school:

FIRST HONORS -

GRADE EIGHT: Elizabeth Barker.

GRADE SEVEN: Kaitlyn Chase and Ashley Weisse.

GRADE FIVE: Tricia Chase.

SECOND HONORS -

GRADE EIGHT: Timothy Welch.

GRADE FIVE: Anthony Massoia and Michael Tangredi.

THIRD HONORS -

GRADE EIGHT: Alan Gallerani, Jeffrey Lagasse, and Adam Rhodes.

GRADE SEVEN: Anthony Ardolino.

GRADE SIX: Kimberley Murphy and Ryan Wytrych.

GRADE FIVE: Matina Geanopoulos, Kristopher Ruehl, Sarah Savoia, and Stephen Teixeira.

Happy 16th Birthday, Aimee



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Mom, Dad, Nick & Michelle

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Evening advising available.
For more information,
call 413-782-1249
or 800-325-1122, ext. 1249,
or e-mail CE@wnec.edu

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, Dec. 4th: Cheese-topped pizza wedge, tossed garden salad w/creamy Italian dressing, chilled pears in syrup, milk.

Tuesday, Dec. 5th: Super taco boat w/cheese topping, mild taco sauce, seasoned green and wax beans, cinnamon apple sauce or orange Jello w/topping, milk.

Wednesday, Dec. 6th: Baked macaroni & cheese sauce, Italian bread & butter, seasoned broccoli cuts, orange blossom cake w/icing or fruit cup, milk.

Thursday, Dec. 7th: Deli-sliced turkey sandwich w/mayonnise, steamed rice, diced carrots, chocolate chip cookie or fruit cup, milk.

Friday, Dec. 8th: Grilled cheese sandwich, pickle chips, oven potato rounds w/catsup, chocolate brownie or pineapple tidbits, milk.

Local Students Attain Honor Roll Status At Cathedral

The following local students have been named to the first-quarter honor roll at Cathedral High School in Springfield:

From Agawam: Second Honors - Megan Landry, Ericc Powell, Meredith Willett, Sean Burke, Kevin Connor, Angela DeCosmo, Michael Dombrowski, Karen Prisky, Jawaan Wright.

From Feeding Hills: Second Honors - Brady Chianciola, Kathleen Barker, Thomas Bertrand, Katherine Bousquet, Caitlin Briere, Christopher Roos.

Our classified ads cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills Center (above Remillard Insurance Agency), or mail them (along with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

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FIFTH-GRADERS AT THE AGAWAM MIDDLE SCHOOL are out of this world with this science project about outer space. From left - Amanda Ledwith (with Ziey from Jupiter), Julie Kuczarski (with Zenon from Pluto), Rachel Pokorny (with Carlos from Mercury), Ryan Morrie (with Gren from Mars), Jason Theroux (with Ruto from Uranus), Michael Malerba (with M.J. from Venus), David Bertera (with Nustar from Saturn), and Anthony Heim (with Zen from Neptune). Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Fifth-Grade Project Out Of This World

by Kathy Shepard
Feature Editor

Mrs. Jeanne Forgette's fifth-grade students covered a science unit on outer space, and the features of the different planets were discussed. They determined what adaptations would be needed for survival.

Students were assigned a planet and they had to create an alien from recycled materials and be able to discuss in class at least five adaptations that would be needed for humans to live on the assigned planet. All of the students' creations will be shown to other classrooms.

The photo accompanying this article shows those which best exemplify the efforts of the students, using the criteria of a width of 12 inches; a height of 10 to 18 inches; 90 to 100 percent recycled materials; five well-shown, finished-looking, and visible features of quality effort and detail (all work done by the student); and a 100-percent self-supporting finished alien.

Grades were based on the number of criterion that were met.

If you visit the Advertiser News' new office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills (above Remillard Insurance), please note that our main entrance is in the back. Please park on the side of the building and use the back entrance. Thank you...

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Agawam Junior High School HONOR ROLL

GRADE 8

Joseph Albano, Nicholas Alvanos, Catherine Andrews, William Bertrand, Kevin Bienia, Stacy Boisvert, Barbara Brizzolari, Michelle Cadieux, Matthew Campana, Christine Cassidy, Patrick Conchieri, Leah Cook, Adam Corbin, Daniel Cosgrove, Nicholas Crescentini, Deborah D'Amours, Mark Dasilva, Elise Davilli, Nicholas Demetrian, Joshua Docherty.

Gregory Donaldson, Amanda Dupre, Caroline Elkins, Alex Ellsworth, Michele Elsner, Caleigh Ferguson, Kelly Follis, Joseph Fortunato, Jordan Frederick, Bethany Garvin, Jaclyn Geaughan, Gina Gessay, Jonathan Gibbons, Alexander Gohn, Meredith Golbach, Emily Gordan, Katie Gorman, Karyn Gottardi, Mary Gottardi, Christopher Graveline, Gina Graziano, Zoryana Grebinnik, Jeannine Hastings, Kristan Heaton, Daniel Higgins, Alexandra Ivey.

Nicholas Jacks, Sean Kelley, Stephanie Klebes, Benjamin Kochanowski, Joseph Koehler, Kristen Laliberte, Michael Landry, Bryan Lane, Zachary Laponese, James Lewin, Nathan Little, Cali Longtin, Tiffany Manzi, Jenelle Masotti, Joseph McGeoghan, Christopher McKenney, Ryan McLane, Erin Milillo, Carmine Mineo, Jennifer Montagna, Andrew Moriarty, Ashley Morris, Theodore Moysis, Daniel Murphy, Sophia Nasti, Eric Niedziela, Jaclyn O'Neill, Shane O'Sullivan.

Amy Osgood, Angela Pandolfi, Venu Patel, Kirsten Patrick, Olga Pchelka, Lauren Peltier, Kevin Pender, Kristen Pfau, Jessica Phillips, Jessica Pokora, Meagan Pokorny, Jennifer Rider, Jennifer Sacco, Matthew Sadowski, Maria Santaniello, Jessica Santucci, Kurt Schebel, Noelle Serafino, Emily Siedlik.

Brian Simpson, Fedor Skovorodin, Abriana Spagnoli, Jamie Spear, Alison Stanton, Vanessa Tencati, Scott Thomas, Michael Thompson, Michael Toto, Erica Troy, Angela Velosky, Anthony Verteramo, Jeffrey Walker, Ryan Walsh, Julie Wills, Nicole Woszczyna, David Zaffetti, Alyssa Zmaczynski.

GRADE 7

Anastasia Aversa, Anthony Bailey, Angelina

Barbarisi, Michael Blanchard, Christopher Blanchette, Cameron Butova, Emily Cassidy, Bryant Cesan, Justin Chretien, Nicole Cirillo, Stephanie Connors, Keeley Conte, Laura Cote, Alycia Cove, Nicole Cristelli, Chantel Cuddemi, Alison Dassatti, Erica DeBarge, Nicholas Dimaio.

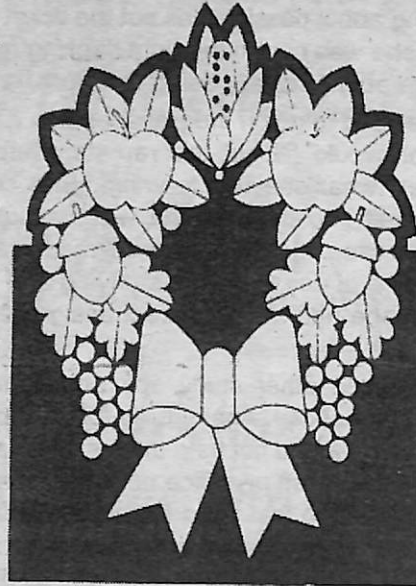
Alexis Dumas, Uche Ejesi, Michelle Epaul, Diana Forbes, Nicole Frazier, Cassie Freeman, Alexander Friedrich, Samantha Gambaccini, Tiara Ghedi, Tammy Gorman, Sophie Gould, Aaron Hibbert, Alicia Holl, Justin Howe, Jeong Hwang, Jonathan Jordan, Heather Kauffman, Johannah Kos, Christine Kretschmar, Tiffany Kudlic, Rebecca Largay.

Lindsie Lavin, Lauren Learned, Monica Lefebvre, Jessica Legein, Morgan Leos, John Leydon, Jillian

Little, Peter Longhi, Mia Lovechio, Nicholas Lovotti, Sarah MacFadden, Michelle Macey, Konstantin Makarov, Angela Mancini, Kari Marceno, Joseph McDyer, Danielle McCaslin, Ryan McNair.

Luca Mineo, Heather Moffatt, Amber Narreau, Jonathan O'Brien, Jason Olbrych, Matthew Oleksak, Christin Peters, Justin Pitoniak, Nicholas Pokora, Ashley Proulx, Caitlin Ranstrom, Joseph Reutt, Nathan Rheault, Kevin Roberts, Paige Roberts, Carlo Ronca, Steven Roskinski

Matthew Sabola, Shelley Schivley, Michael Skovorodin, Danielle Smith, Katelynn Springer, Matthew Styckiewicz, Ashley Toyfair, James Valenti, Nicholas Vershon, Mitchell Vivencio, Julie Warchol, Katelyn Yelinek.



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From The AHS Guidance Office...

by Judy Cohen
Agawam High School
Guidance Counselor

"I Can Do It" Or "I Will Do It"...

Carol came into my office. Actually, I called her in. Her grades were abominable, her parents didn't know what to do, and her teachers were puzzled. I mean Carol presented herself as an articulate and bright young lady. It's just that she came to class, sat quietly, and virtually did nothing!

The grades (mostly failures) truly were not the puzzle; what to do to counter the situation was the problem. So, I decided to bring Carol in, talk, and see if maybe we could come up with a plan. Notice the word "we." If I simply came up with the plan and Carol didn't buy into it, it would not work.

Carol entered my office, looking lovely as usual. Not wanting to beat around the bush, I got right to the point. Showing her the grades, I voiced concern and asked for an explanation. She smiled and said, "Don't worry; I can do the work." I explained to her that I am not the one who had to do the worrying; she did and the sooner the better. She earned the grades; I did not.

I told her that she must take ownership of these grades; they belong to no one else. She must do something about them. Obviously, her choice of what to do (not too much) in the first place brought on the resulting failures. Next, I decided to tackle the second part of her statement: "... I can do the work."

"Yes, you can do the work," I told Carol, "but that really isn't the problem. The problem is will you do the work ... do you understand what I mean?" Carol

thought for a minute and then shook her head yes in agreement. "You're right ... I always say I can do it, but then I just don't do it." "Ahh ...," I continued, "then that's what we have to take a look at ... not your ability, but your desire."

Carol and I talked about the difference between "I can do it" and "I will do it," and she realized that that one little verb - can or will - really does make all the difference. I mean, just because you can do it does not mean that you will do it; and if you will not do it, then it doesn't matter that you can do it! Wow! That sounds confusing, but actually, if you think it through, it really makes sense. As with most things, the desire must be there in order to get the task accomplished.

Carol came to the realization that she kept figuring she would pass all her subjects because she knew she had the "smarts." Now, she understood that she had to be willing to use those smarts in order to pass. Just thinking about passing was not the ticket to passing. Since she was now in the right thinking mode, we talked more about actually doing the work.

Carol decided to go on progress reports. Each time the teacher would fill out the reports, Carol would actually see what she was earning. She could not delude herself into thinking she was passing if this were not the case. Moreover, she decided to set aside the same time of day to do her studying and to make certain that she had all the correct assignments written down.

We discussed other study tips and Carol jotted them down as I spoke. Again, I reinforced that all the tips in the world would not help unless she was willing to use them. Carol left my office hopefully carrying not only the information that I had imparted, but also carrying the message of willingness that will prove to be so important in successfully dealing with all phases of her life.

"I can do it" ... or "I will do it" ... combine the two, and a winner is definitely made!!!

AIC Recognizes Academic Achievement

Local high school seniors and AIC freshmen who have distinguished themselves academically were recognized at a reception this month at American International College.

This year's AIC Alumni Book Prize winners, one of which is **Michael Federico** of Agawam High School, and the first three AIC Presidential Scholars were honored on Sunday, November 19th in the International Room of Lee Hall at the AIC campus.

Each year, the AIC Alumni Association awards the Alumni Book Prize to area high school seniors who have achieved academic distinction and are good school citizens.

The 16 recipients of this year's Book Prize were named last spring and presented with a Merriam-Webster dictionary and thesaurus gift set.

"Our alumni are very interested in honoring student scholars, while letting them know that AIC is an outstanding school at which to continue their education," said Gary Boisseau, president of the Springfield chapter of the Alumni Association.

The AIC Presidential Scholars program recognizes AIC freshmen for their achievements in high school.

Each recipient will be matched with a former AIC president, with the hope that they will continue to distinguish themselves during their years at AIC.

AIC Alumni Director John DeBonville said that by matching students to former AIC presidents, the college hopes to give students a sense of the long tradition of achievement they are a part of at AIC.

"For 115 years, AIC has educated people from Greater Springfield, and this is our way of honoring students' achievements at the high school and the college level," said DeBonville.

The Presidential Scholars, who are all recipients of academic scholarships, will be presented with a gift to honor their achievements.

Melanie Berthiaume of Southbridge has been named the Rev. John M. Green Scholar, Ronald Thurston of Springfield has been named the Rev. Calvin Amaron Scholar, and Nicole Brodeur of Nashua, New Hampshire is the Rev. Samuel Lee Scholar.

Agawam High School's Guidance Bulletin

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES: Congratulations!

Jeff Fay: University of Hartford.

Greg Mantolesky: University of Hartford.

Stephanie Knodler: Franklin Pierce College.

SCHOLARSHIPS: See your counselor for more information or an application.

Valley Press Club Scholarship: Four \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to students who plan to further their education at an accredited college with a

major in journalism. Deadline: April 1, 2001.

The Edward P. Boland Scholarship: Open to residents of Hampden County. These awards are based on financial need, academic merit, and extracurricular activities. Deadline: March 15, 2001.

The following colleges are offering scholarships to qualified students who plan to enroll there: **Ithaca College, Hartwick College, and Wingate University.**

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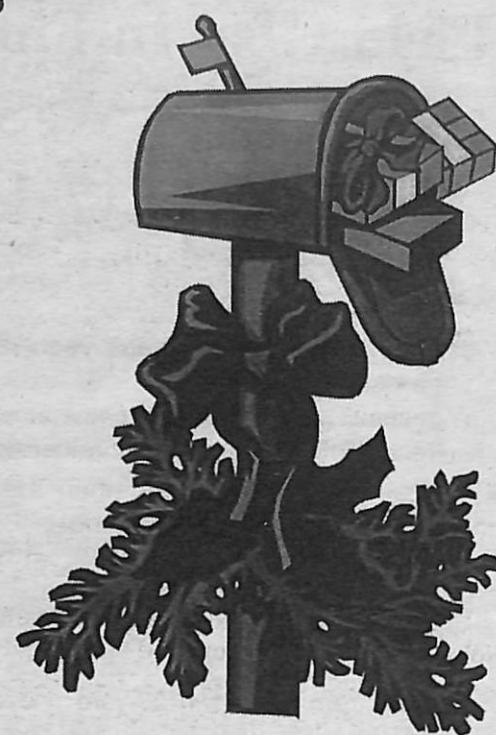
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Sports

At Wintry Cold Clarke Field...

Field Goal In Final Seconds Lifts W. Side Over AHS, 17-14

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

West Springfield High ended four years of frustration with a last-second, 17-14 win over Agawam High in their annual Thanksgiving Day battle at wintry-like Clarke Field before a huge, roaring gathering.

It was an even sweeter win when the Terriers learned they were Super Bowl-bound in Division II after South Hadley beat Comp, 23-12, on the same day, giving West Side that league's title.

Agawam, which leads the series, 50-23-3, fell behind after a scoreless first quarter. The Terriers' drive started from their own 38-yard line and was highlighted (or lowlighted) by several Agawam off-side penalties which kept the drive alive.

Dustin Sayward, who would figure in big towards the end of the game, ran for 17 yards to the Brownies' 19 on an end-around. Seven yards by Mike Thibault and three more by Nick Topjian brought the ball to the Brownies' eight.

With 9:47 to go in the half, senior Dan DiStefano took it up the middle to make it 6-0. The extra point was no good.

The Brownies could do nothing on their next possession.

One reason for the offensive woes was an ankle injury to junior back Vitaly Dzhenezherukha (suffered in the Minnechaug game). The junior struggled when he was in there. Senior Tony Liquori had to carry the bulk of the Agawam running game. And the Terriers' defense was keying on him big-time.

If they weren't going to get it on the ground, then Agawam decided to go through the air. With 4:34 left in the half, they got the ball on their own 44-yard line. Behind some tough running by senior Nick Beaudette, Brian Michel, and Liquori, they set up their first score - a beautiful 43-yard TD pass over the middle from sophomore quarterback Joe Clark to Michel. The kick was blocked and, with 2:46 left, things were tied at six apiece.

Both teams had one more shot at a score before the intermission. But the defense was tough on both sides, and it stood at six-all when the buzzer blew.

The Brownies received the kickoff to start the second half and went three and out. The Terriers got the ball back at their 42 with 9:31 left in the third quarter and began a drive that ate up all kinds of time.

The third quarter ended with West Side enjoying a first and 10 on the Agawam 19.

Four plays later, they had another first down, this time at the Brownies' one. From there, Topjian took it in. Quarterback Bryan Brandon ran for the two-point conversion and West Side went up, 14-6, with 10:03 left in the game.

The Brownies Tie Things Up...

The Brownies bounced back. After the defense hung tough, it was their ball at their own 15. The

SEE TURKEY DAY FOOTBALL - Page 45



THE AGAWAM AND WEST SPRINGFIELD ROTARY CLUBS held their annual joint meeting on Tuesday, November 21st, to challenge each other to make contributions to the Parish Cupboard, as well as to honor football players and cheerleaders from the two schools who were getting ready for the annual Thanksgiving Day football game. The Rotary Club from the town of the losing team (this year, Agawam) will make a \$100 contribution to the Parish Cupboard. IN TOP PHOTO: Agawam Rotary members Jack Walsh and Rosemary Sandlin (Agawam School Committee Vice-Chairwoman) pose with AHS players and cheerleaders, including (clockwise, from left) Frank Ferrentino, Stephanie Pettazzoni, Tony Liquori, Ashlee Lorraine, Rachel Lara, Nick Beaudette, and Aimee Piccin. IN PHOTO BELOW: Standing - Heather Ferguson, Jessica Forni, Anne Shibley, and Rotarians Rosemary Sandlin and Jack Walsh. Seated - Lauren DeLuca, Ryan Malanson, Bianca Chase, Isidro Aguinaga, and Jenna Bodurtha. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.



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TURKEY DAY FOOTBALL - from Page 44

Agawam drive was highlighted by a 23-yard pass play from Clark to senior tight end Lou Conte that brought the Brownies to the Terriers' 40. A 22-yard run by Liquori saw Agawam with a first and 10 at the 18.

Again, Agawam went to the air with Clark hitting Conte for the 18-yard score. Liquori ran for the two points to tie things at 14 with 3:28 left.

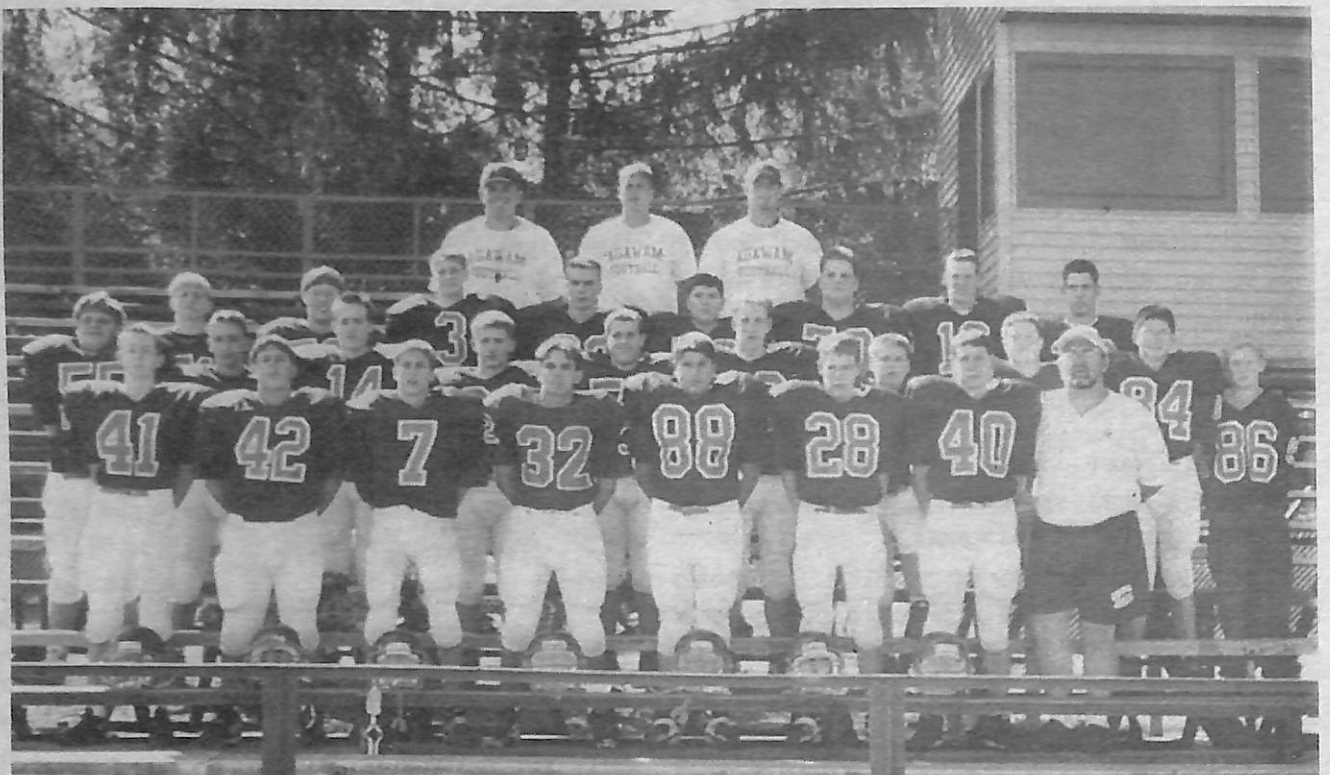
With 3:17 to go, West Side had the ball at its 39 and was looking at maybe a tie unless they could come up with a gut-check play. They got it on a third and five from junior receiver Dustin Sayward. He snagged a 44-yard pass from Brandon and took the ball to the Brownies' three-yard line. "Dustin has been our go-to guy all year long," Terrier Coach Carl Suppino smiled about the game's biggest play.

The Agawam defense, which had played well all game long (as did the West Side "D"), then stuck the Terriers on three straight plays which brought up a fourth and three situation from the three-yard line.

Enter junior place kicker Eric Valentino. In what very well could have been the high point of his career, the kid kicked a 19-yard knuckleball through the uprights for a 17-14 West Side lead with 16 seconds left on the clock.

"We actually thought they were going to fake the kick and go for the touchdown," Agawam Coach Tad Desautels said.

The score stood up as time ran out, giving Agawam a final record of 1-10. West Side, which will meet Leicester (6-5) in the Division IIA Super Bowl on December 2nd at Springfield College, rose to 7-3, its best record in years.

Representing The Future Of AHS Football

PICTURED ABOVE ARE THE coaches and members of Agawam High School's freshman football team for the fall 2000 season. Front row: Randy Carlton, Bruce Johnson, Bruce Moore, John Montavlo, Roger Sircar, Mike LaChappelle, Steve Santinello, and Coach Kirk Parker. Second row: Dustin Hebert, Anthony Manzi, Bob Jensen, Craig Gauthier, Brendan Cayer, Bryan LaChappelle, Tony Gingras, Chris Pass, Anthony Waite, and Dave Clark. Third row: Kyle Turcotte, Matt Kupras, Tom Gorman, Jeff Neilsen, Kyle Lafontaine, Chris Werther, Justin Perry, and Tony Carestia. Back row: Coaches John Benjamin, Tad Desautels, and Matt Desautels. (Missing from photo: Patrick Coffey, Barrington Doush, and Nick Liquori.)

* * * * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, letters, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

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"Ski & Snowboard Savings Book" Has Great Values

The American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts, Freeride Snowsports, and nine ski resorts are offering downhill skiers free lift tickets and other major ski discounts during the 2000-2001 ski season. The **Ski & Snowboard Savings Book** will offer skiers free and discounted skiing at nine resorts from the Berkshires to Central Massachusetts. Discounts are also available on ski tune-ups and merchandise at area ski shops. The Book's "Winter Products Sponsor" is Rossignol.

For **\$49.95**, the holder of the Ski & Snowboard Savings Book can ski free or at a discount once, or at many of the resorts multiple times during the ski season. The Book includes free lift tickets, buy-one-get-one-free deals, and other discounts on ski passes and merchandise. As an added bonus, purchasers of the Ski & Snowboard Savings Book will be entered into a drawing to win a ski or snowboard package worth \$500 from Rossignol. The drawing for the package will be held on February 15, 2001.

Participating ski resorts are: Berkshire East Ski Area, Jiminy Peak Ski Resort, Brodie Mountain, Catamount Ski Resort, Wachusett Mountain, Blandford Ski Area, Ski Butternut, Ski Bousquet, and Otis Ridge Ski Area. Sample discounts include free lift tickets at Jiminy Peak and Brodie Mountain, and multiple discounts at Berkshire East Ski Area, including free Wednesday night skiing throughout the season and a free child's ticket with each full day, full price ticket purchased, plus many more.

More information on the Ski & Snowboard Savings Book, plus discounts on merchandise and tune-ups, are available at Clark's Sport Shop, Greenfield; Western Village, Northampton; The Bicycle Barn, Northfield; The Ski-In, Agawam/Wilbraham; Kenver LTD, South Egremont; Ski-Haus, East Longmeadow; Plaine's Bike & Ski, Pittsfield; and Competitive Edge Ski and Bike, East Longmeadow/Hadley/Holyoke.

Every dollar raised through the Ski & Snowboarding Savings Book helps the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts fund its community education and research programs in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire Counties.

To order the **Ski & Snowboard Savings Book**, or for more information, please call the American Lung Association at (413) 737-3506 or 800-LUNG-USA.

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If you have dropped off any photos to our office for Boy Scout activities, church events, etc., please pick them up after they appear in the Advertiser News...

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Seniors Honored At Girls' Soccer Banquet



SENIOR CLASS MEMBERS of the 2000 Agawam High girls' varsity soccer team were recognized at the Soccer Booster Club's annual banquet at Shaker Farms Country Club. Back row - Jen Leupo, Amy Jensen, Laura Bucalo, Courtney Adamczyk, and Becky Crum. Front row - Amanda Merola, Jill Gendron, and Becca Nacewicz. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



THE EIGHT SENIORS ON THE Agawam High School girls' varsity soccer team were all instrumental in a 1-1 tie at Harmon Smith Field versus WMass. third-ranked Amherst Regional on "Senior Night." Pictured from left: Courtney Adamczyk, Laura Bucalo, Becky Crum, Jill Gendron, Amy Jensen, Jen Leupo, Amanda Merola, and Becca Nacewicz.

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Enjoying Themselves At Girls' Soccer Banquet "Recreation Night" With The Spfld. Falcons On Dec. 8th



PICTURED ABOVE are the officers of Agawam High School's 2000 Soccer Booster Club, which coordinated the recent annual banquet (from left to right): Sue Adameczyk, Lisa Kraus, Joanne Taylor, and Joseph Bucalo (president). Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



TWO SOPHOMORE STARTERS for the Agawam High School girls' varsity soccer team this past season were Kaitlin Sardella (left) and Danielle Cirillo. Both girls are pictured at the annual banquet at Shaker Farms Country Club in Westfield. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

The Springfield Falcons are announcing that the next **Recreation Group Night**, sponsored by the Agawam Parks & Recreation Department, is scheduled for **Friday, December 8th** versus the Worcester Ice Cats at 7:30 p.m. All fans purchasing tickets at the Recreation Department will receive a **free** 8" x 10" color photo of a Falcon player!

The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department is offering **one great discounted price ticket** of \$7.50 for either adults or kids, with **50 cents** of each ticket sold going back to the department for other youth recreational activities.

All ticket purchases for the game must be made by **12:00 noon** on **Thursday, December 7th**.

For further information, call the Agawam Parks & Recreation Department on weekdays at 821-0513.

Latest Job Openings From Parks & Rec.

The Town of Agawam Parks & Recreation Department has openings for the following positions:

- * Basketball referee - \$9.00/game.
- * Basketball scorekeeper - \$6.00/game.
- * Site supervisor - \$8.00/hour.

Anyone interested in any of the positions should fill out an application at the Recreation Department (located at 760 Cooper Street, Agawam) or call 821-0514 for more information.

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Tri-Parish Bowling League...

St. Mary Continues To Lead The Pack After Two More Exciting Weeks Of Rolling In Round Two

St. Louis seems to be a team of ups and downs in the Tri-Parish Bowling League. On Monday, November 13th (which was an unlucky-sounding date to begin with), the team bowled on lanes one and two and guess what? Oh yes, it was a down night because its competition, St. Mary, took all four points.

St. L bowled well. Jim "Jimbo" Lambert hit a 307 with a 118 single, and Glen "Not Sam" Adams ran off a 339 with two 121's.

But St. M was relentless. Mary "Patsy" Patnode led off with a 310 night, Don "Reb" Stitt followed with a 324 (which included a 138 second string), and all was golden with Rich "Golden" Snyder, who hit a great 387 with strings of 134, 127, and 126. St. M was over 500 on all three strings, which is super team bowling.

Notre Dame went on a tear to win over Boston College, 3-1. BC rallied to win the third string, but that was it for the night.

For BC, Jon "Money" Robarge hit a good 328 (with a 122 high) to lead the team, but he ran into the "Wild Thing," who was anything but. She rolled a terrific 392 with strings of 129, 137, and 126 ... she being Paula "Extra Wild Thing" Burke, who warmed up all day raking leaves (must be something in the fresh air). Also for ND, Lucy "Not In Peanuts" Menard ran off a nice 307, getting a high string of 117.

Georgetown took Holy Cross, 3-1, with a great team effort. Lead-off man Tom "Thumb" Massotti ran off a nice 314, Jim "Big Mac" McCormack hit a 311 for the night, and "Mighty" Debbie Poirier chalked up a 319. These three scores made for a good three-point night. "Mighty" rolled against sub anchor Jim "Big Dawg" Burlingham (who is "Big Cat's" mate). The "Big Dawg" hit a respectable 318 after warming up with an

86 first string.

The star for HC during this match was Jan "Steady" Fuller, who hit a great 142 single to finish with a 348 (just missing the magic 350 series, which gets you up on the recognition board). "Big Dawg" was subbing for Ron "The Don" Menard, who decided to take a few weeks off by breaking his right ankle. (Hope you have a speedy recovery, Ron!)

In the final match on Monday the 13th, Catholic University did in Fordham, 3-1. Cori "Lefty" Napolitan took over for Kathy "Big Cat" Burlingham at anchor and rolled a great 339, which (together with the "Big Cat's" average) was enough to carry the team.

Fordham only had one bowler over the 300 mark - "Jolly" Olly Muldrew, who ran off a 326. The Fordham team had a good third string led by Stella "Star" Barberi's 103 to total out seven pins ahead for its only point.

So, after two weeks in round two, the standings looked like this:

St. Mary
Notre Dame
St. Louis
Holy Cross
Georgetown
Catholic University
Fordham
Boston College

7 - 1
6 - 2
4 - 4
4 - 4
4 - 4
3 - 5
2 - 6
2 - 6

As of Monday, November 20th, St. Mary continues to lead the second round of the Tri-Parish Bowling League. However, on that particular evening, it managed only a 2-2 tie with Georgetown.

Leading St. M were Don "Reb" Stitt and Rich "Golden" Snyder, both rolling 321 series. "Reb's" high game was a 116, and "Golden" hit a 127.

Georgetown got a good team effort from its entire group. Tom "Thumb" Massotti hit a 291, Vi "Speedy" Massoia ran a 292, and "Mighty" Debbie Poirier rolled a 293. Jim "Big Mac" McCormack had plenty of special sauce, as he bowled a 325 series with a 120 high string.

St. Louis beat Notre Dame, 3-1, to move into second place. (Both teams are 7-5, but St. L has a higher pinfall.) For St. L, it was all Glen "Not Sam" Adams, who rolled a cool 371 with a frosty 131, 115, and 125.

ND did manage to win the second game when Frank "Buck" Cerpovicz ran off a 125 to go with Paula "Wild Thing" Burke's 108 to take the point by 26 pins. "Wild Thing" was very tame through the match, only rolling a 304 series.

Fordham took three points from Holy Cross. HC sub anchor Jim "Big Dawg" Burlingham was high for the losers with a mild 306. For F'ham, it was Flo "Rocky" Rochford with a 313 night and "Jolly" Olly Muldrew with a 346 to bring the team up to fifth place. This was another case for lanes one and two ... "they" won again! (Only one bowler had three strings over 100, that being "Jolly" Olly.)

Catholic University split with Boston College at two each. For CU, John "Big Bad" Mlinek was the only one over 300. He rolled a 118 second string on the way to a 318 series.

For BC, Jon "Money" Robarge started off with a

SEE BOWLING - Page 51

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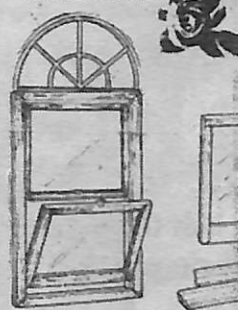
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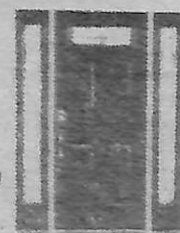
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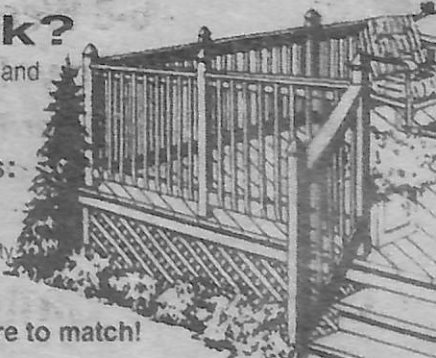
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In Pioneer Valley...

Agawam Boys' U-9 Team Ends 1st Year With Success

The Agawam Tornadoes ended their first season together by playing a tough division I schedule with a record of 5-4-4. The team is coached by Dan Sullivan and assisted by Brian Regnier and Rick Cayer.

The Tornadoes started the season on a high note by playing a tough Wilbraham team to a 1-1 tie. The team came back to beat Northampton 2-0 for its first PV win. James Regnier scored two goals while Bobby Geanopoulos recorded a shutout in goal.

The Tornadoes would go on to lose to an extremely strong Ludlow squad, but rallied in their next game to tie a different Ludlow team 1-1 in Ludlow. Cody Smith scored for the Tornadoes while Bobby Geanopoulos played another strong game in net. Gregorio Santa played an outstanding game at defense, shutting down many scoring threats by Ludlow.

Agawam would go on to lose games against a fast East Longmeadow team and a heartbreaking loss at UMass against Amherst. Agawam would go into the last week of the season needing to win three of its last four to finish their first season above .500.

The Tornadoes traveled to Wilbraham and defeated the home team 2-1 in a thriller. Andrew Cayer scored the winning goal late in the second half while Bradford Siegars played outstanding in goal.

The Tornadoes traveled to Northampton and escaped with a 1-1 tie. Conner Wytrych scored off a corner kick for a 1-0 lead. Northampton would tie the game in the end of regulation. Josh Goggin played well in goal for Agawam to keep the 1-1 tie in place.

Against Chicopee, the Tornadoes scored early on a rocket by Wytrych from the top of the goal box to give the team the win. Lukas Buiso played a brilliant game at stopper, holding Chicopee in check for most of the game.

The team ended the season with a 2-1 victory over Northampton. Nicholas Tangredi and Kyle Santos carried the momentum for the Tornadoes in sealing their last victory of the season. Kris Carrington played well in goal, stopping many crucial shots late in the game.

SEE TORNADOES - Page 50



THE AGAWAM "TORNADOES" made an impressive debut this season in the boys' under-9 division of the Pioneer Valley Soccer League. Front row: Josh Goggin, Kyle Santos, Kris Carrington, Nicholas Tangredi, and Andrew Cayer. Middle row: Lukas Buiso, Bradford Siegars, Bobby Geanopoulos, Connor Wytrych, Cody Smith, and James Regnier. Back row: Coach Dan Sullivan and Assistants Brian Regnier and Rick Cayer. (Missing: Greg Santa.)

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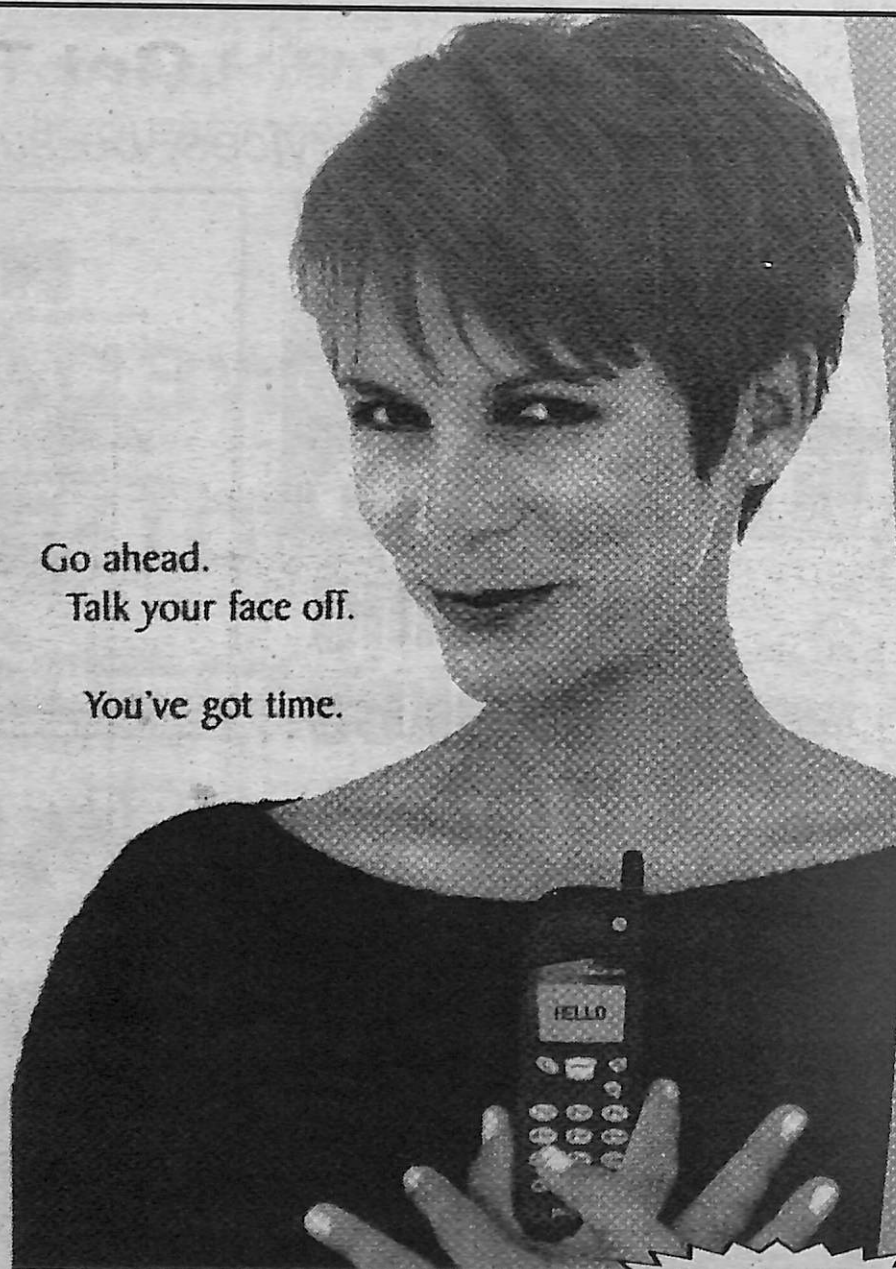
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TORNADOES - from Page 49

The highlight for the team was a Columbus Day tournament played in Windsor, Connecticut. The team played the top division I teams in the state in the three-day tournament. The team would finish at 3-1-1, placing second. Agawam played extremely well in a stunning 4-1 defeat over previously unbeaten Enfield. Conner Wytrych, Kyle Santos, and Bobby Geanopoulos led the team offensively. Lukas Buiso, James Regnier, Cody Smith, and Nick Tangredi played exceptional games at their respective positions. Bradford Siegars and Josh Goggin handled goaltending duties with outstanding efforts throughout all of the tournament.

Agawam would go on to beat strong Brookfield and Fairfield teams during tournament play. A heartbreaking tie to South Windsor was the highlight of the tournament. Wytrych would go on to have the game of his season, netting one goal and nailing the post five times in the second half.

Individual achievements for the year included Conner Wytrych leading the team in scoring. Andrew Cayer carried the team the whole season playing the center midfield position. Cayer played almost every second of every game and was responsible for setting up most of Agawam's goals throughout the season. Bobby Geanopoulos played exceptional at wing position. Greg Santa was a legitimate force on defense, playing with skill and aggressiveness. Lukas Buiso anchored the defense all season long, playing brilliantly in all of Agawam's games. James Regnier was Mr. Utility by playing anywhere the team needed. Kris Carrington, Josh Goggin, and Bradford Siegars all shared goaltending duties and all played well. Kyle Santos, Nick Tangredi, and Cody Smith also played well for the Tornadoes.

The team is currently playing at the Big E and won its first game indoors, 5-4. Conner Wytrych scored three goals. James Regnier and Bobby Geanopoulos each had one apiece. Kris Carrington played the whole game in goal to record the win.



CONGRATULATIONS to the "Green Hornets" for a great season. Front row: Michele Elsnor, Alex Shibley, Mia Lovechio, Joshua Miranda, Ashley Toyfair, Joe Reutt, and Jared Skolnick. Middle row: Aaron Hibbert, David Boss, Jeremy Skiba, and Alex Friedrich. Back row: Coach Dee Adams, Tricia Bushey, Sean Sparveri, Ben Kochanowski, Alyse Mokrzycki, Jen Rider, and Assistant Coaches Scott and Myriam Skolnick.

"Green Hornets" End Season In 1st Place

Dee Adams' Under-14 soccer team, the Green Hornets, completed this fall's soccer season with a record of 11-0-1, bringing them to first-place status.

The co-ed team of kids had varied soccer experience. Some have played consistently and others started playing soccer this season.

Hard work and perseverance made them a strong and cohesive unit. The children enjoyed the game, each other's company, and were rewarded for their


positive attitude.

The Green Hornets will be receiving their first-place trophy on December 10th and will be celebrating a successful season at a party after the awards ceremony.

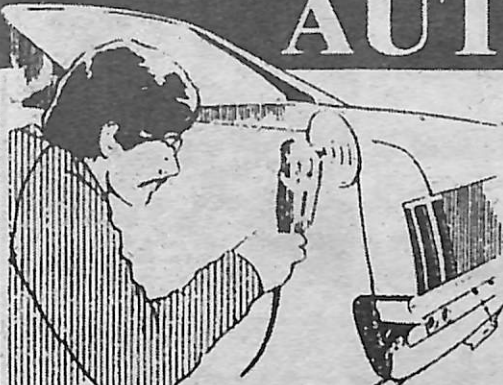
Coach Dee Adams and Assistant Coaches Myriam and Scott Skolnick wish to thank the players, their parents, and rival teams for a great season of sportsmanship and fair play.

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Agawam Ball Hogs Enjoy Successful Soccer Season

The Agawam Ball Hogs wrapped up the Pioneer Valley Soccer season in second place with a record of 11-2-1. Once again, Coaches Tony Depalma and Randy Holmes did an outstanding job as they guided the Ball Hogs through the season and into the playoffs in the U12 Division II. The team also placed third in the annual Six Flags Tournament in September, which was a great start to a great season.

Great offensive play and domination from the front line of Anthony Depalma, Anthony Costa, Ryan Wytrych, and Thomas Albano complemented the great defense of Steve Carmody, Randy Holmes, and Chris Wyman. Sweepers Alfredo Settembre and Steve Donah controlled and dominated the middle of the field and played key roles in some of the toughest games of the season.

The midfield combination of Adam White, Zachary Smith, and Jonathan Melendez also played vital roles and they had great seasons as well. The team also benefited from the addition of new players such as Kurt Ripke (who played great at forward) and Eric Holt (who had a great season at the midfield position), along with Greg Santos. Also, Brian Foley played great in net as back-up as well as other positions.

Of course, with the outstanding play and determination of starting goalie Chris Alvanos, the Ball Hogs were in position to win every game. Chris gave 110 percent every game, sacrificing the body often. He, as well as all the Ball Hogs, had a great year. It was a great team effort all season, and the team hopes to carry that over to Division I next year.

Coaches Depalma and Holmes recently treated the team to a pizza party and presented the kids with trophies. The Ball Hogs would like to thank the parents, families, and friends for all the support from the sidelines all season. They also would like to thank Eddie from Bruno's for hosting and assisting in the pizza party at Bruno's in Agawam.

Good luck in 2001, Ball Hogs!



PICTURED ABOVE ARE THE MEMBERS of the Agawam "Ball Hogs" with their coaches. Back row: Coach Tony Depalma, Brian Foley, Kurt Ripke, Jonathan Melendez, Anthony Depalma, Steven Carmody, Thomas Albano, Adam Witte, , Steven Donah, Alfredo Settembre, and Coach Randy Holmes. Front row: Eric Holt, Anthony Costa, Randy Holmes, Chris Alvanos, Ryan Wytrych, Chris Wyman, and Zach Smith.

* * * * *

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BOWLING - from Page 48

139, but he slipped on the other two to end up with a 339 series (thus, the total team pinfall went to BC by 23 pins).

It was a very subdued group of bowlers on this particular evening. It was hard to tell whether it was from the cold weather or the pending Thanksgiving holiday. Now that the Christmas shopping frenzy is underway, we'll just have to wait and see how this yuletide stress will affect the scores.

After three weeks, the standings are as follows:

St. Mary	9 - 3
St. Louis	7 - 5
Notre Dame	7 - 5
Georgetown	6 - 6
Fordham	5 - 7
Holy Cross	5 - 7
Catholic University	5 - 7
Boston College	4 - 8

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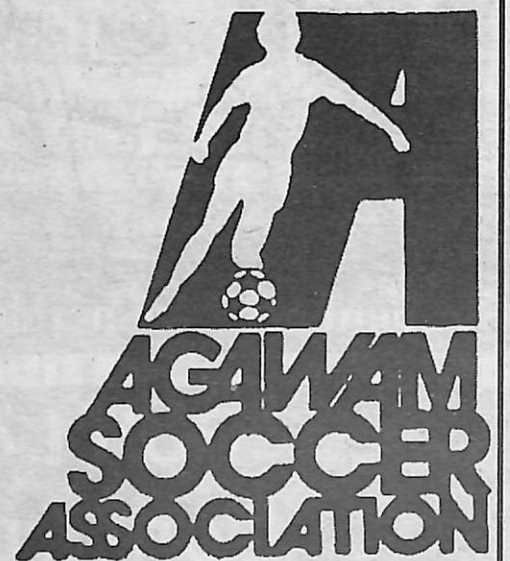
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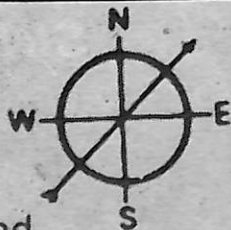
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- ★ LAND CLEARING
- ★ BRUSH CHIPPING
- ★ STUMP GRINDING
- ★ YARD CLEAN-UPS

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Complete tree removal, trimming. Land cleared. Senior citizen discount. **FREE ESTIMATES.** Fully insured. Call **786-5081.**

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We offer many cleaning services including carpet upholstery, floors and power washing of siding. Licensed and insured. In business over 15 years. Call for free estimate. **(413) 532-6298** or **(860) 763-0528.**

PAUL'S TREE SERVICE:

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BUILDERS: Custom homes & remodeling (since 1975). Fully insured & licensed. Rick Pfeffer, 4 Lenox St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. Reg. No. 116963; Const. Sup. No. 000450. **(413) 789-1150.**

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New roofing and repairs. Insured and licensed. Many referrals. **786-5516.**

MINOR PLUMBING:

Quality plumbing at reasonable rates. Prompt and efficient service. Lic. no. 203752. Bob at **572-9143** (Westfield).

TRASH REMOVAL:

Garages, attics, & cellars cleaned out. Lawn service, unwanted items, metal removal. Insured. Call Mr. T's Cleaning Svc. Phone **789-0540**, beeper **735-4535.**

TIM'S CARPENTRY:

Specializing in interior finish work. Also kitchen & bath remodeling.

Additions, decks, cedar closets. Installation of hardwood floors. Free estimates; insured. **(413) 789-2367.**

PAINTING, STAINING:

Exterior, interior. Your home or business. Quality work, reasonable rates. Call Joe at **786-5912.**

RENT-A-SPOUSE:

Errands & Odd Jobs Are Us - Large & small repairs, yard work, clean gutters & windows, moving, trash removal, housecleaning, grocery & gift shopping/wrapping, ironing. If a traditional husband or wife does it - SO DO WE! Fully insured, gift certificates, MC/Visa accepted. **789-7911.**

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Attics, basements, garages, and more. Complete removal service. Free est. Lowest rates. **783-6103.**

BOB LONGO CON-

STRUCTION: 27 years specializing in kitchens and additions. Free cus-

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CHARTIER'S GENERAL CARPENTRY:

We take the worry out of building. Additions; new construction; renovations; custom decks. Lic. no. 051681; fully insured. Don Chartier, owner. **(413) 789-7011.**

DAYCARE:

I am a professional family daycare provider licensed (186383) by the Massachusetts Office for Children. I'm located off River Road in Agawam. For more information, call Maggie at Pooh's Corner, **786-8806.**

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Need a handy man around the house? All types of home improvements & odd jobs. Bob Bartolucci, **(413) 736-3730.** Reg. No. 127813.

CIRILLO'S LANDSCAP-

ING: Specializing in commercial and residential lawn care. Free estimates. Call now for fall cleaning, **786-7843.**

GILL HALL FALL

CLEANING/SNOW-PLOWING: Aeration; free est.; residential & commercial accounts accepted. Call Hall Lawn Care, **789-1712.**

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INC.: We have all the answers for all your home improvement needs. Replacement window specialists. Over 30 years in business. License number CSO16915; reg. number 116652. **(413) 786-8666.**

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Trudy Wissel. **(860) 668-1656 (H); 860-668-9990 (B).**

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PANY: Residential & commercial building materials specialists. Decks for everybody. Free local delivery. 777 Silver Street, Agawam. Call **413-786-1636.**

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Nutritious meals/snacks and pre-school program included. Enrollment incentives. Vouchers and grant money available. Lic. #184792. Call Sue at **789-2530.**

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W & I CONSTRUCTION,

INC.: Septic systems; backhoe & Bobcat work; plowing; sand & salt applications. Fully insured, free estimates. Phone **(413) 786-7377;** fax **(413) 786-7953.**

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CARD READINGS: Open 7 days a week: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Fri.-Sun., 9 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. Walk-ins welcome. 1775 Main St., Agawam (next to Six Flags). **(413) 786-9711.**

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A SPECIALTY: Wall/ceiling repairs; wallpapering, stripping, painting (large

or small). Insured, quality; serving you since '82. Steven G. Erickson, **413-539-8660** (cell phone).

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IMPROVEMENT: Specialist in kitchens & baths. Fully insured, free estimates. Reg. #132952. Cell: **348-5579;** phone no.: **734-9105.**

TUTOR: Certified teacher - special needs and elementary education background. All subjects. Call Sue at **789-2530.**

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XMAS TREES \$20-\$30:

You pick and cut - Saturdays & Sundays thru 12/17/00. At 10 Samuel Street. From Route 75 (near 57 overpass), take Anthony St., then 1st left onto Samuel; at end of Samuel, continue straight. Driveway is 1,200 feet to the house.

FOR SALE: Self-propelled chipper/shredder vacuum. Made by White. 5.5 h.p.; 1 yr.-old. Asking \$450. **(413) 736-8669.**

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FOR SALE: GE heavy duty, large capacity electric clothes washer (little used); 78" queen sleeper sofa; upholstered swivel

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CAT: Adult black, short-hair male cat with white spot under neck. In vicinity of Pleasant Dr. & North St., F.H. Very friendly & affectionate. Needs a good home Call **786-2950.** (Willing to help with shots & neutering.)

PERSONAL

POWERFUL NOVENA TO OUR LADY (Never Known to Fail): O Most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendour of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me here you are my mother. O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you. **E.S.**

WANTED

HELP WANTED: Experienced snowplow driver for residential accounts. Must know Agawam, Longmeadow, W. Spfld. area. On call 24-7. \$25.00/hr. Call **821-0822.**

WANTED

FOOD SERVICE - SCHOOL LUNCH: Suffield, CT; 3-1/4 hr. position (\$9.91 per hr.) and Call-in Substitute Positions; School Year Schedule. Call **(860) 668-3825** for application.

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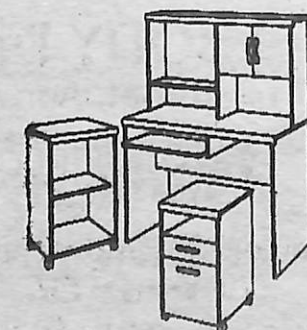
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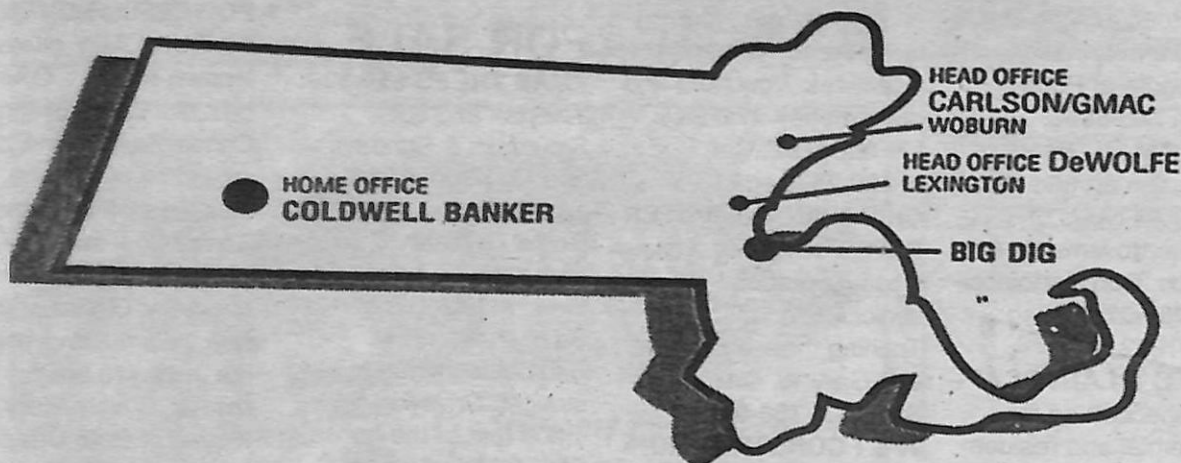
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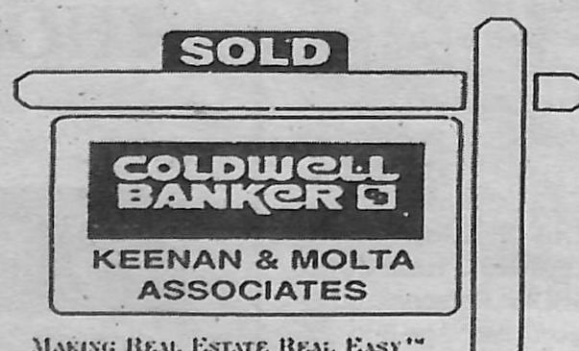
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